



48 PAGES EVERY WEEK

NO. 616

\$1.50

CAN \$2.00

U.K. 60p

ACTION

COMICS® WEEKLY



ALEX
TOTH

BLACKHAWK®

PLUS:

WILD DOG • **SUPERMAN**
GREEN LANTERN • **NIGHTWING**
BLACK CANARY



ACTION COMICS WEEKLY 616 September 6, 1988. (USPS 004-480) Published weekly with the exception of the last week of the year by DC Comics Inc., 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10103. Second class postage paid at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to ACTION COMICS WEEKLY, DC Comics Inc., Subscription Dept., P.O. Box 1981, New York, NY 10185. Annual subscription rate \$78.00. Outside U.S.A. \$86.00 in U.S. funds. Copyright © 1988 DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof are trademarks of DC Comics Inc. Advertising Representative: Print Advertising Representatives Inc., 355 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017. (212) 391-1400. Printed in U.S.A.

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MISS, PLEASE!
THE AUTHORITIES
HAVE BEEN
SUMMONED--

ARISIA, WHAT
HAPPENED?
WHAT'S THE
HYSTERIC?



OH, OLLIE, MY LOVER'S
SUFFOCATING
IN A SAFE!

OH.

DOES THAT
MEAN YOU'RE
FREE TONIGHT
AFTER ALL?



WAAM



HAVE TO CALM DOWN...
PULL MYSELF
TOGETHER.

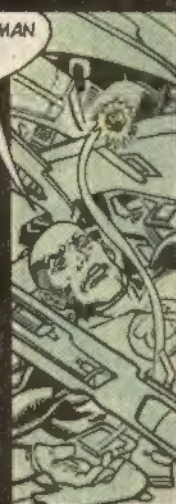
FIGHT DOWN THE PANIC
THAT'S RUNNING AROUND
INSIDE ME. FEAR OF
DARK, FEAR OF...
DYING.



EVER SINCE THE RING
GAVE ME BACK FEAR...
THE FEAR THAT ABIN
SUR MADE IT
ELIMINATE WHEN
HE SAID--

FIND ME A MAN
WITHOUT
FEAR.

IT'S BEEN HELL.
REDISCOVERING THE REAL-
ITIES OF BEING HUMAN.
WITH HUMAN CONCERNS.



BUT EVEN IF
I DIE, IT'LL BE AS A
MAN, NOT AS SOME
LOBOTOMIZED JERK.

HOPEFULLY
THOUGH, THAT
DEATH WON'T
BE TODAY.



FIRST TO SOLVE
THE DARK-
NESS...

WITH RING-
GENERATED LIGHT.



AMAZING HOW A LITTLE
LIGHT REDUCES PANIC.
NOW... WHAT?



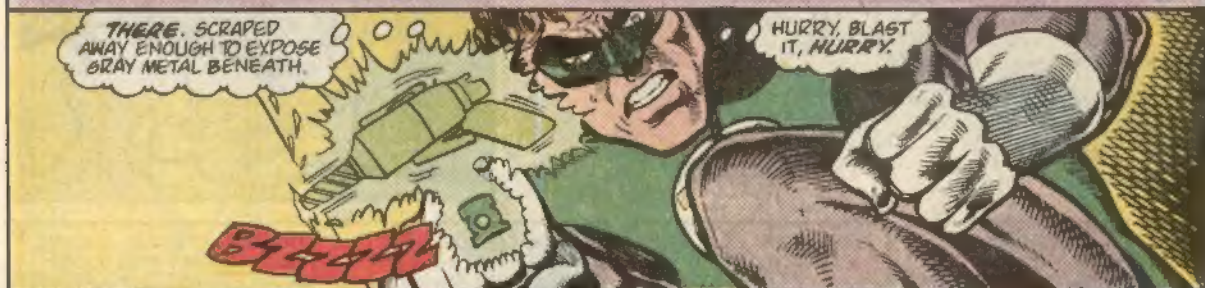
GOT IT. I'LL FLY THIS WHOLE
THING STRAIGHT UP-- MELT IT
IN THE SUN, IF I HAVE TO.

UMF. NO GOOD.
THE RING WON'T LIFT THE
SAFE SINCE IT'S YELLOW
INSIDE AND OUT, AND JUST
LIFTING MYSELF IS
ACCOMPLISHING DIDDY.



THINK, YOU STUPID JET
JOCKEY.

THINK.



BACK OFF
PEOPLE!

I'M MEAN
AND GREEN.

WELL, AT
LEAST HAL HASN'T
LOST HIS SENSE
OF HUMOR.

BAAAAAAD.

AND I
AM--

RUNCH

HONEY!

ARE YOU
OKAY?

I'M HUUUNH
FINE. FINE.

DID YOU SEE
WHERE--THE MEN
WHO RAN OUT OF
HERE--WENT?

NO. I WAS SO
CONCERNED
ABOUT YOU I--

WHAT? YOU MEAN YOU
JUST STOOD AROUND
HERE, ACCOMPLISHING
NOTHING?!

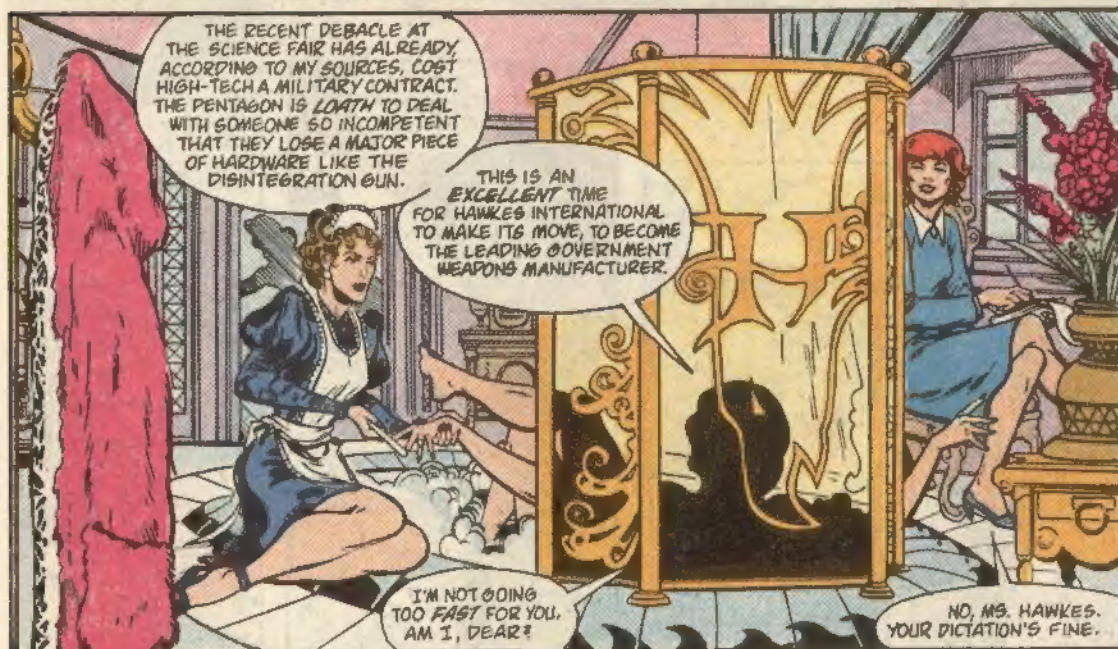
BLAST IT, ARISIA,
DID YOU LOSE YOUR
BRAIN WHEN YOU LOST
YOUR RING?

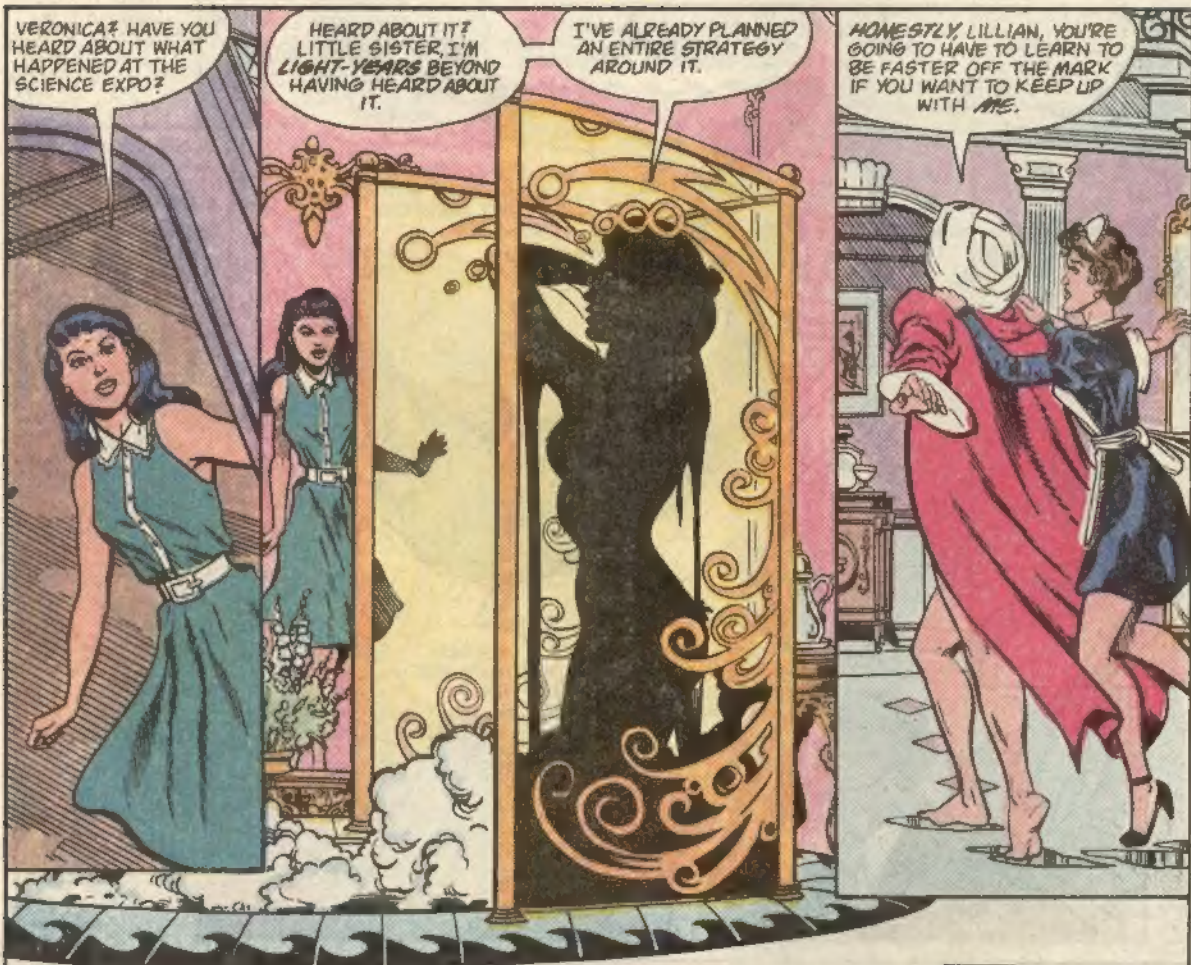
HOW COULD HE SAY
THAT? AND NOW HE'S...
TURNING AWAY?

HE HATES
ME! HE REALLY
HATES ME.

OH, GREAT GOING, JORDAN.
YOU'RE UPSET WITH YOUR-
SELF FOR GETTING TRAPPED,
STILL SHAKY FROM THE
WHOLE EXPERIENCE...

SO YOU TAKE
OUT YOUR
ANXIETY ON
THE ONE WHO
CARES FOR
YOU MOST.





VERONICA? HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED AT THE SCIENCE EXPO?

HEARD ABOUT IT? LITTLE SISTER, I'M LIGHT-YEARS BEYOND HAVING HEARD ABOUT IT.

I'VE ALREADY PLANNED AN ENTIRE STRATEGY AROUND IT.

HONESTLY, LILLIAN, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO LEARN TO BE FASTER OFF THE MARK IF YOU WANT TO KEEP UP WITH ME.



BUT AREN'T YOU CONCERNED THAT SOME MANIACS ARE RUNNING AROUND WITH A DANGEROUS WEAPON?

AS LONG AS IT ISN'T POINTED AT ME? NO.



"YOU SEE, LILLIAN, ANY SCREW-UP IS GOOD FOR US--AS LONG AS IT ISN'T OURS."



DAD! YOU SCREWED UP THE STEAKS!

WH--AH, NUTS!

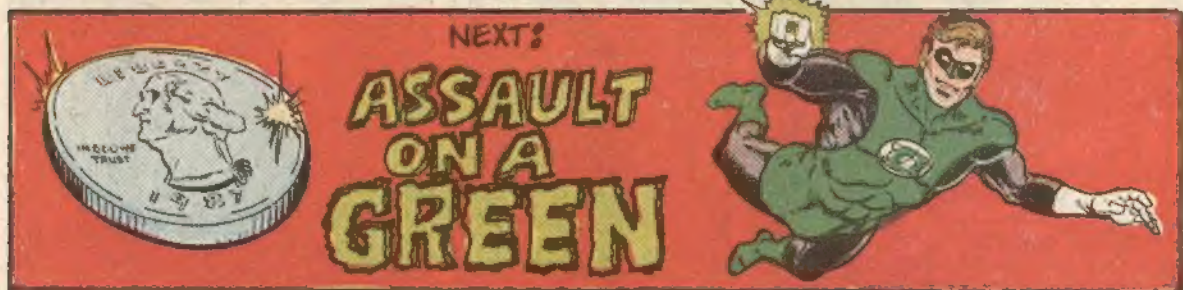
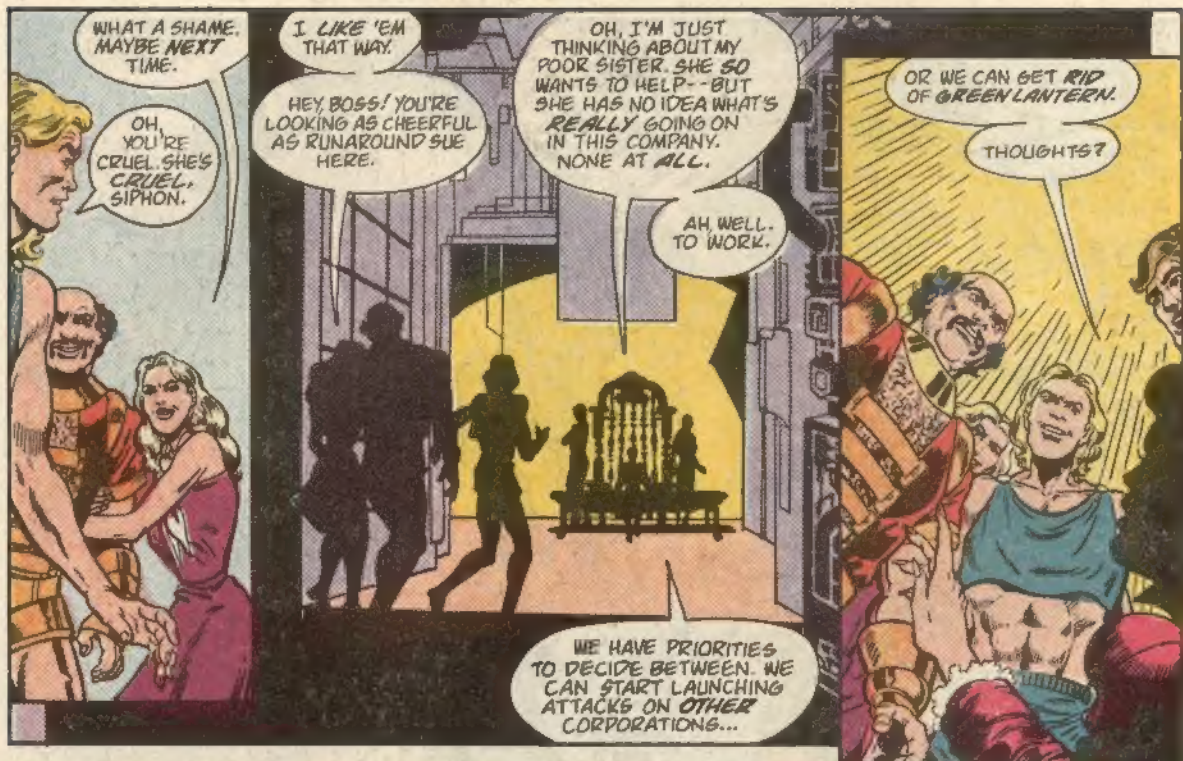


SMILE, HONEY!

I'M SO SORRY I GOT YOU THAT DAMNED CAMERA.

IT'S LIKE IT'S BECOME EPOXIED TO YOUR FACE.





BLACKHAWK™



STILL NO
WORD FROM
YOUR OLD
O.S.S.
CONTACTS,
MON AMI?

NAH. AND IT
MIGHT BE A
WHILE, TOO.

PULLIN' STRINGS
AS A FAVOR TO AN
EX-OPERATIVE IS
NEVER HIGH-PRIORITY
STUFF, ANDRE--YOU
KNOW THAT.

I STILL
CAN'T FIGURE
WHAT JAN WAS
EXPECTIN'!

I MEAN, WE'RE TALKIN'
ARRANGIN' A SALE BY
THE U.S. GOVERNMENT
OF TWO SPECIALLY
REFITTED XFSF-1'S...TO
A PRIVATE
ENTERPRISE.

Y'KNOW
HOW MANY
MONTHS THAT
COULD TAKE?

NOT THAT
I GET WHAT JAN
EXPECTS US TO DO
WITH 'EM--IF WE
DO KEEP 'EM.

THAT IS THE
MAJOR, CHUCK--
EVER CONFIDENT
THERE IS WAR
SOMEWHAI'R WAITING
TO 'APPEN.

BLACKHAWK AIRWAYS INC.

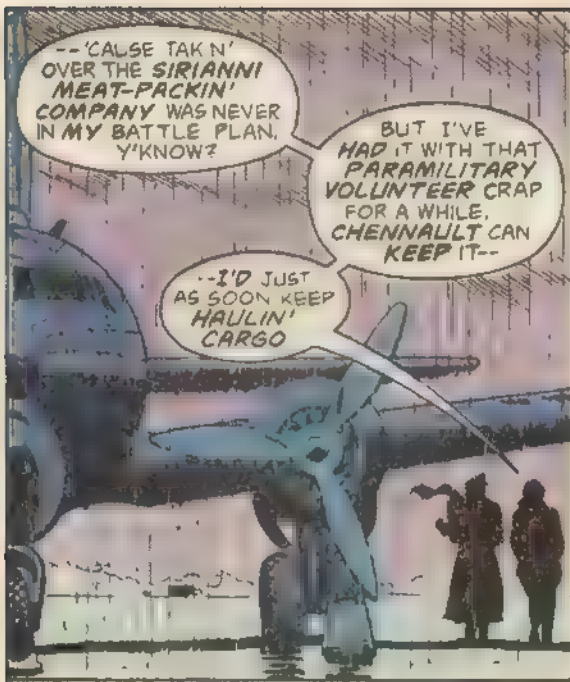
MISSION : IMPLAUSIBLE

WRITTEN BY MARTIN PASKO ART BY RICK BURCHETT
LETTERED BY COLORED BY EDITED BY
STEVE HAYNIE TOM ZIUKO MIKE GOLD

AROUND
HERE? HAH. BY
MY LIGHTS, U.N.
"POLICE ACTIONS"
DON'T COUNT.

NOT THAT I CARE.
WHEN YOU CALLED*
I WAS READY TO
TAKE A FLYIN'
INSTRUCTOR'S JOB
IN UTAH JUST TO GET
OUTTA HOBOKEN--

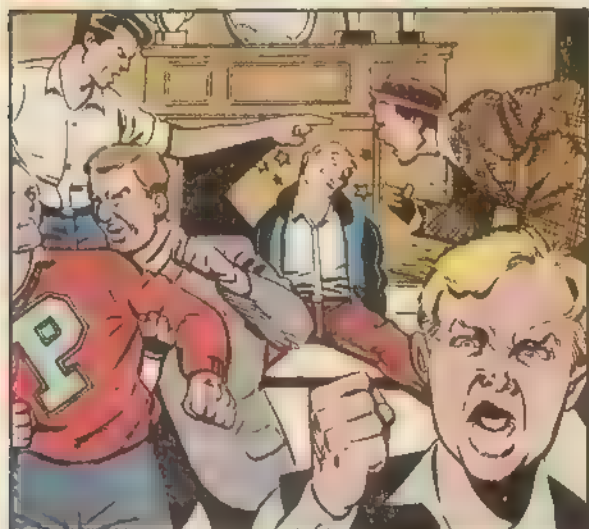
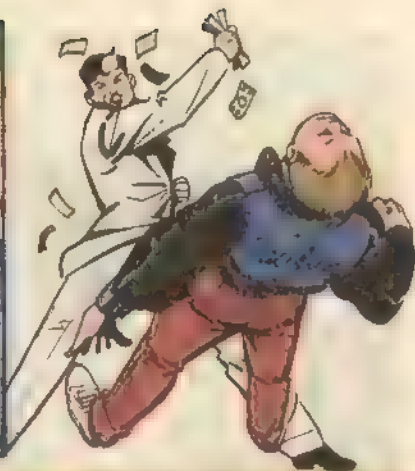
*PER ACW #608--MIKE.

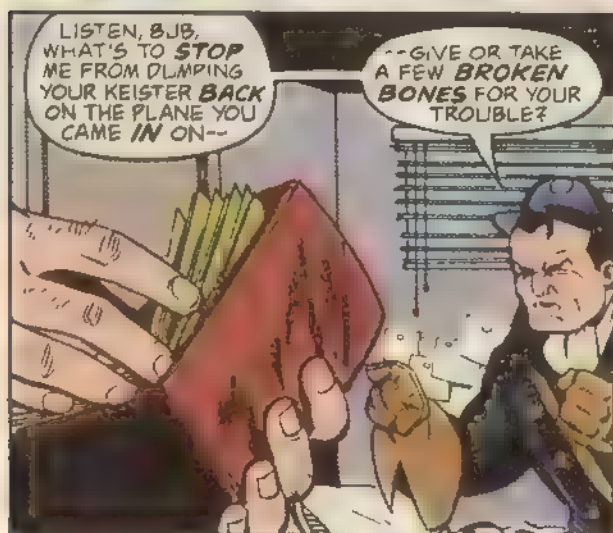
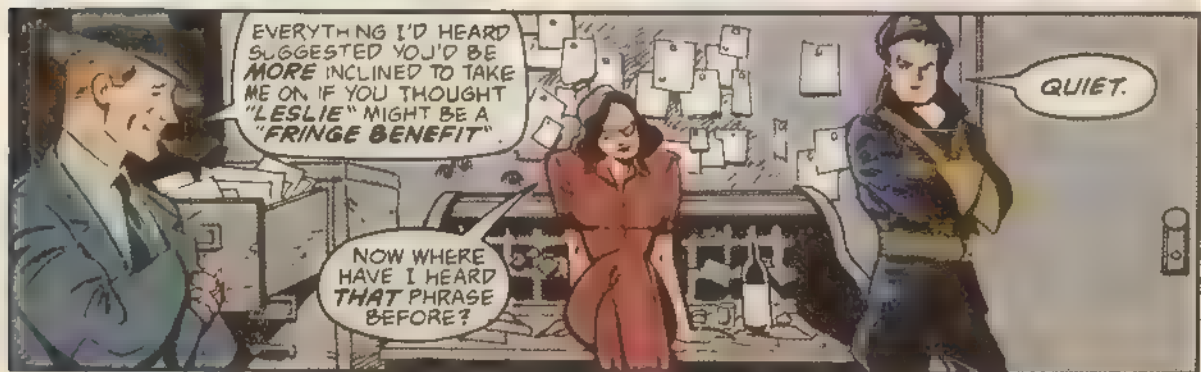
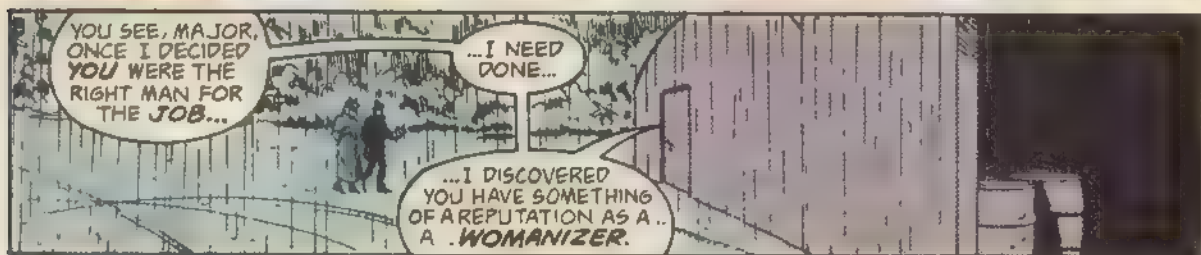
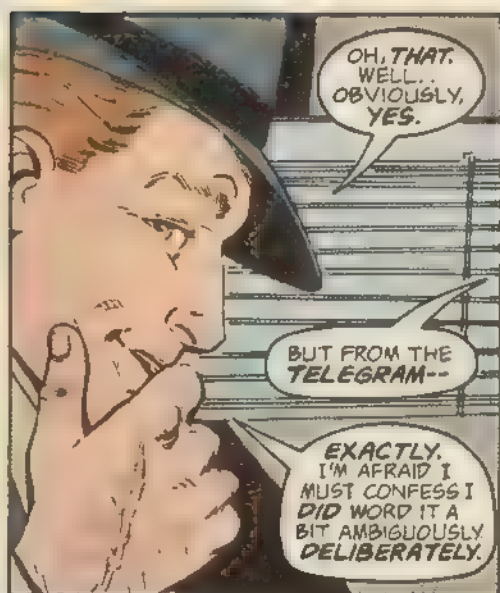
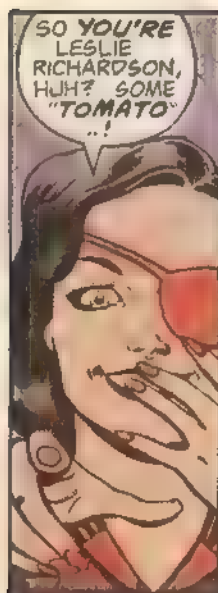


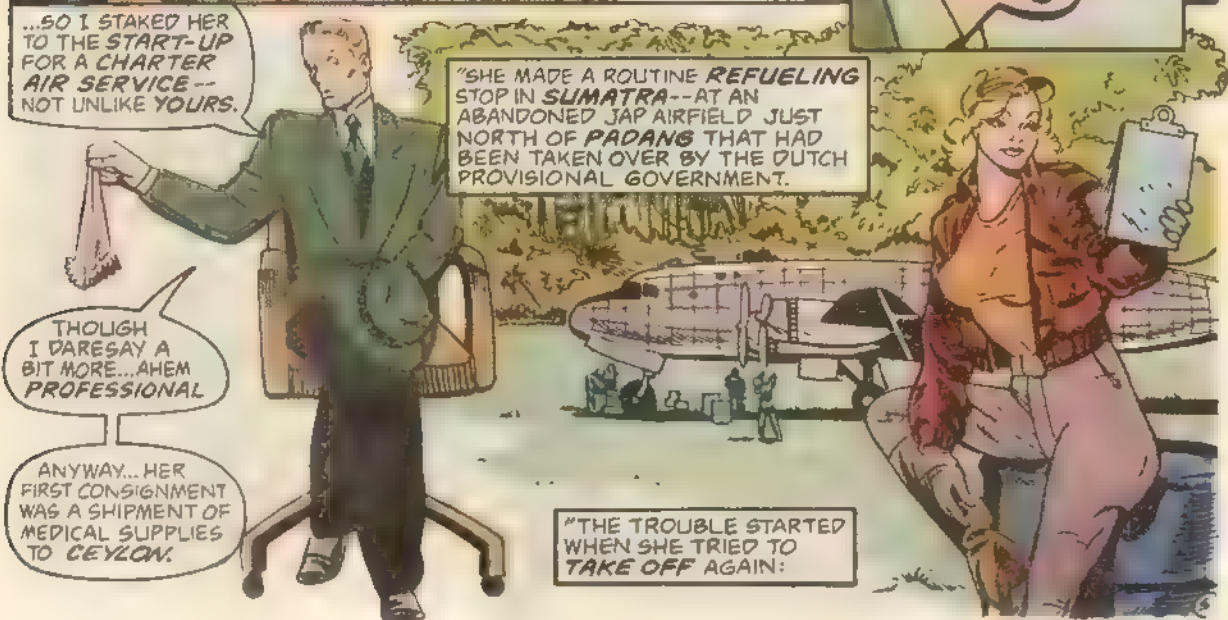
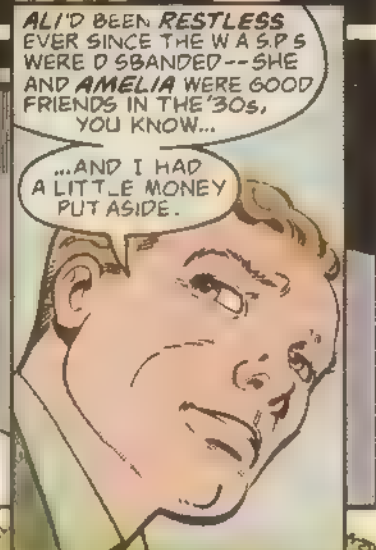
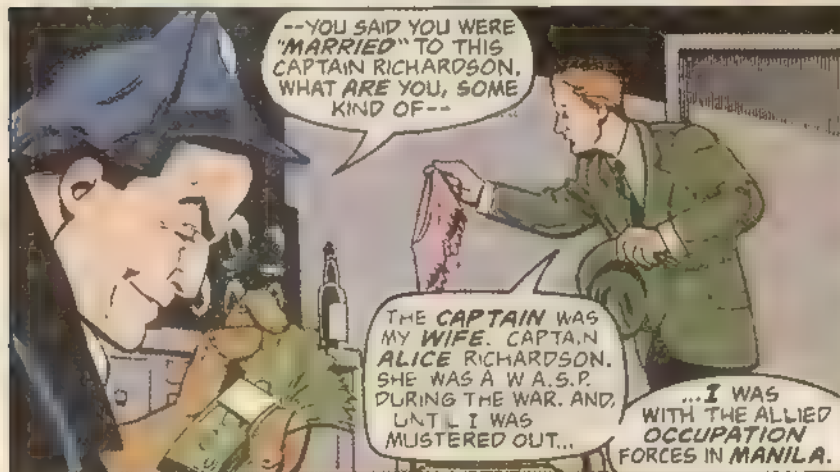
"ZUT ALORS! WHAT'S KEEPING HIM, THEN?"

"MONEY--WHAT ELSE? HE SAYS HE'LL BE HERE ..."

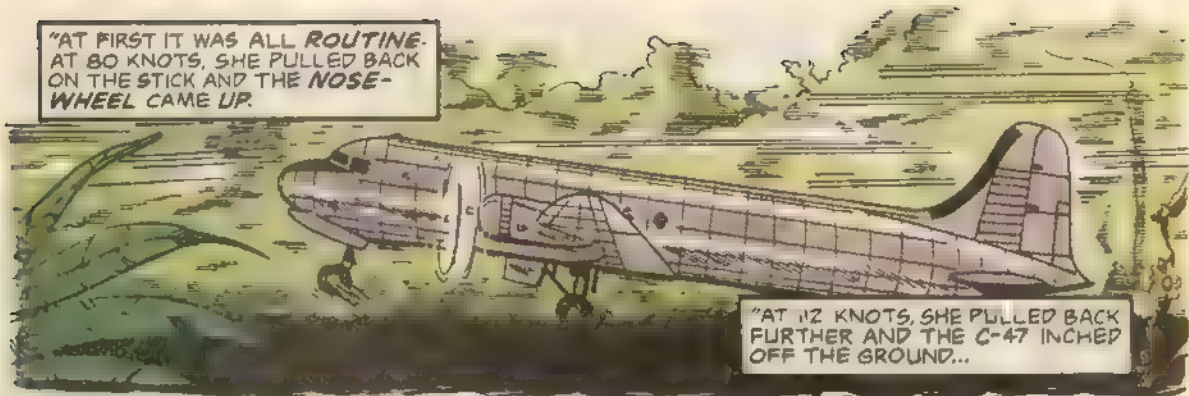






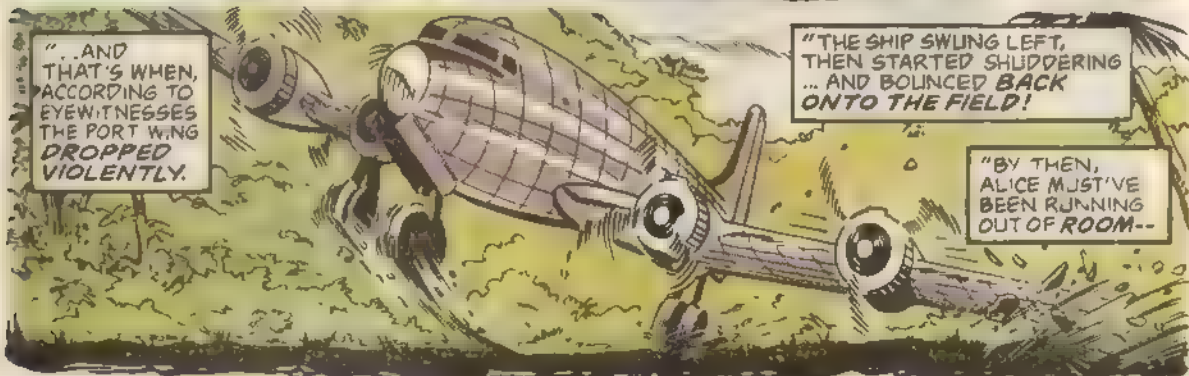


"AT FIRST IT WAS ALL ROUTINE.
AT 80 KNOTS, SHE PULLED BACK
ON THE STICK AND THE NOSE-
WHEEL CAME UP.



"AT 112 KNOTS, SHE PULLED BACK
FURTHER AND THE C-47 INCHED
OFF THE GROUND...

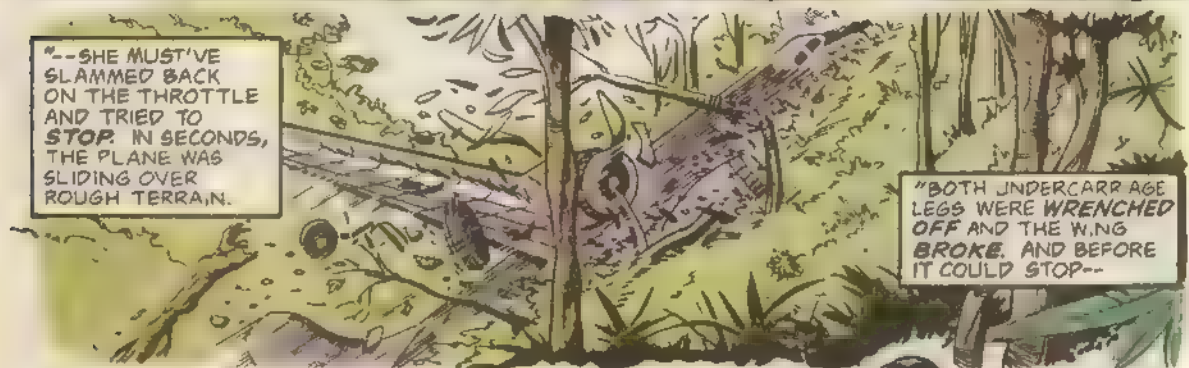
"...AND
THAT'S WHEN,
ACCORDING TO
EYEWITNESSES
THE PORT WING
DROPPED
VIOLENTLY.



"THE SHIP SWUNG LEFT,
THEN STARTED SHUDDERING
... AND BOUNCED BACK
ONTO THE FIELD!

"BY THEN,
ALICE MUST'VE
BEEN RUNNING
OUT OF ROOM--

"--SHE MUST'VE
SLAMMED BACK
ON THE THROTTLE
AND TRIED TO
STOP. IN SECONDS,
THE PLANE WAS
SLIDING OVER
ROUGH TERRAIN.

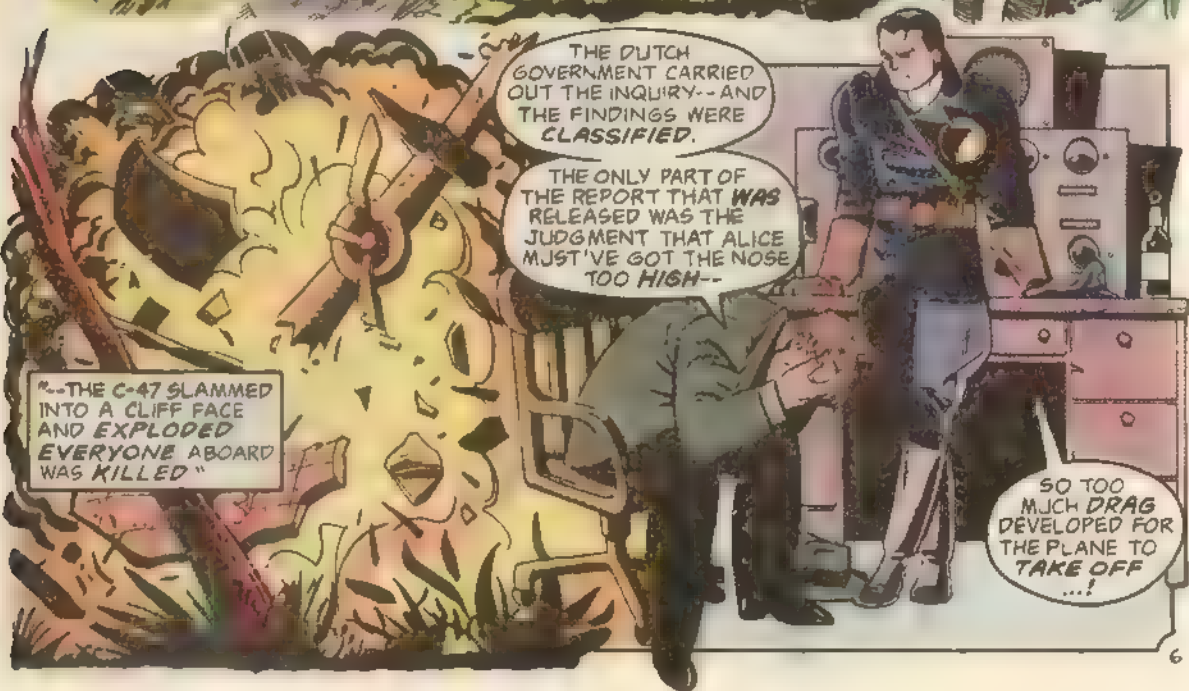


"BOTH UNDERCARRIAGE
LEGS WERE WRENCHED
OFF AND THE WING
BROKE, AND BEFORE
IT COULD STOP--

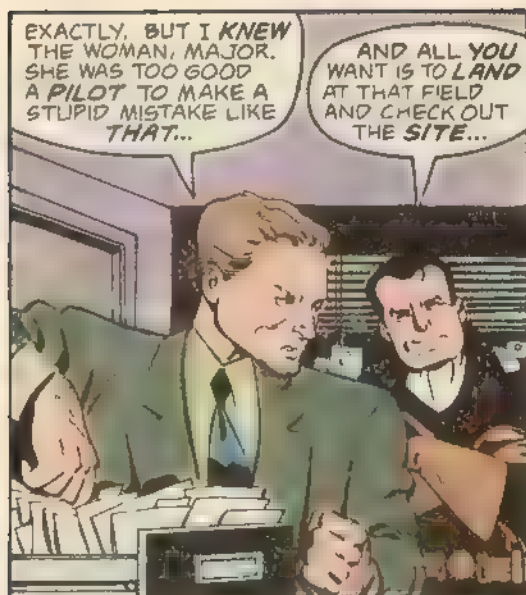
THE DUTCH
GOVERNMENT CARRIED
OUT THE INQUIRY--AND
THE FINDINGS WERE
CLASSIFIED.

THE ONLY PART OF
THE REPORT THAT **WAS**
RELEASED WAS THE
JUDGMENT THAT ALICE
MUST'VE GOT THE NOSE
TOO HIGH--

"--THE C-47 SLAMMED
INTO A CLIFF FACE
AND EXPLODED
EVERYONE ABOARD
WAS KILLED"

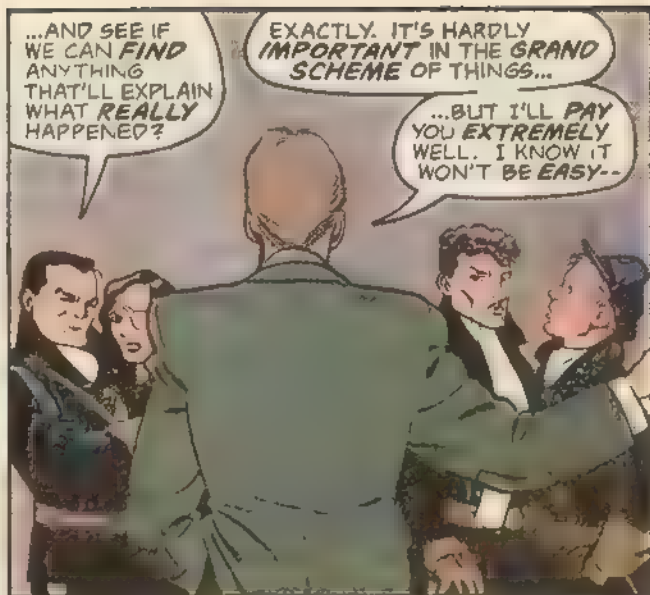


SO TOO
MUCH DRAG
DEVELOPED FOR
THE PLANE TO
TAKE OFF
...!



EXACTLY, BUT I **KNEW** THE WOMAN, MAJOR. SHE WAS TOO GOOD A PILOT TO MAKE A STUPID MISTAKE LIKE THAT...

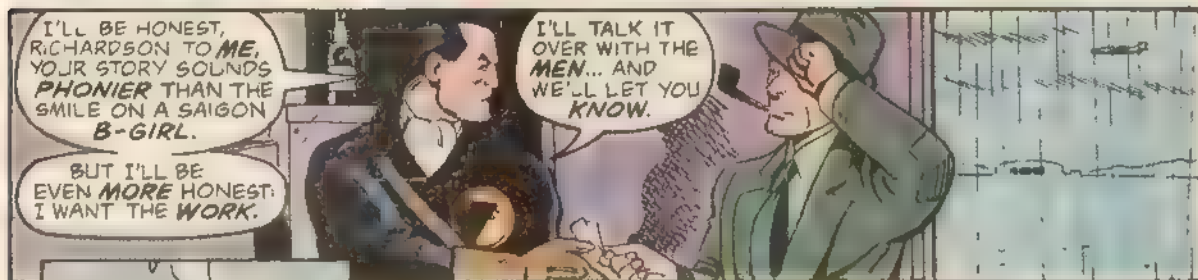
AND ALL YOU WANT IS TO **LAND** AT THAT FIELD AND CHECK OUT THE **SITE**...



...AND SEE IF WE CAN **FIND** ANYTHING THAT'LL EXPLAIN WHAT **REALLY** HAPPENED?

EXACTLY. IT'S HARDLY **IMPORTANT** IN THE **GRAND SCHEME** OF THINGS...

...BUT I'LL **PAY** YOU **EXTREMELY** WELL. I KNOW IT WON'T BE **EASY**--



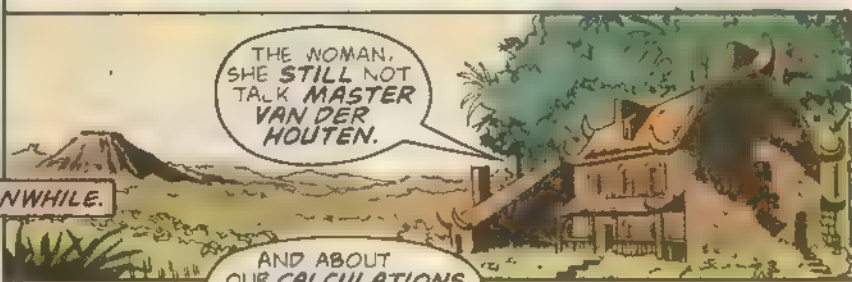
I'LL BE HONEST, RICHARDSON TO **ME**, YOUR STORY SOUNDS **PHONIER** THAN THE SMILE ON A SAIGON **B-GIRL**.

BUT I'LL BE **EVEN MORE HONEST**. I WANT THE **WORK**.

I'LL TALK IT OVER WITH THE **MEN**... AND WE'LL LET YOU **KNOW**.



MEANWHILE.



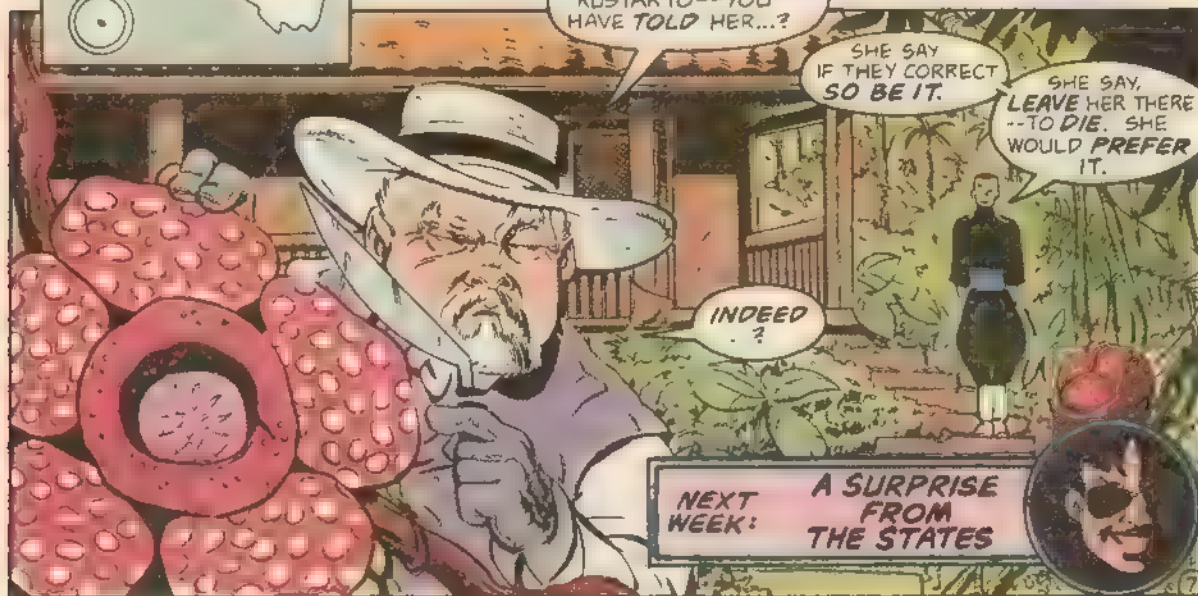
THE WOMAN. SHE **STILL** NOT TALK **MASTER VAN DER HOUTEN**.

AND ABOUT OUR **CALCULATIONS**. KUSTARTO--YOU HAVE TOLD HER...?

SHE SAY IF THEY CORRECT **SO BE IT**.

SHE SAY, **LEAVE HER THERE**--TO **DIE**. SHE WOULD **PREFER IT**.

INDEED ?



NEXT WEEK:

A **SURPRISE FROM THE STATES**



WILD DOG

FATAL DISTRACTION



Chapter Two:

BATTLE GEAR

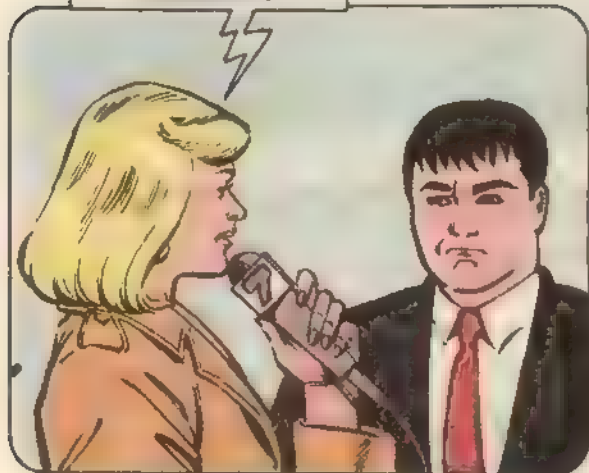


THIS IS SUSAN KING, EYEWITNESS NEWS, REPORTING FROM THE ALLEY WHERE SOMETIME LAST NIGHT THE SERIAL KILLER THAT THE POLICE ARE CALLING THE NIGHT SLASHER CLAIMED HIS- OR HER- FOURTH VICTIM.

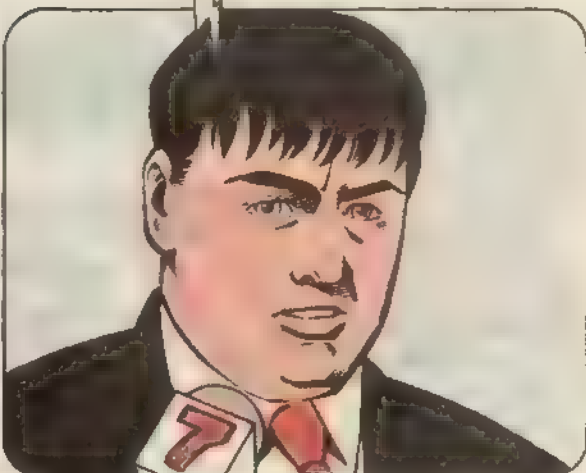
WE'RE ABOUT TO HAVE AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH POLICE LIEUTENANT ANDY FLINT, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE INVESTIGATION..

WRITER ~ MAX ALLAN COLLINS
PENCILLER ~ TERRY BEATTY
INKER ~ JOHN NYBERG
LETTERER ~ TIM MARKINS
COLORIST ~ CARL GAFFORD
EDITOR ~ BRIAN AUGUSTYN

DO THE POLICE HAVE ANY THEORIES ABOUT THE "NIGHT SLASHER," LIEUTENANT?



NOT JUST YET, MS. KING - BUT WE HAVE SOME REASON TO BELIEVE A WOMAN MAY BE INVOLVED.



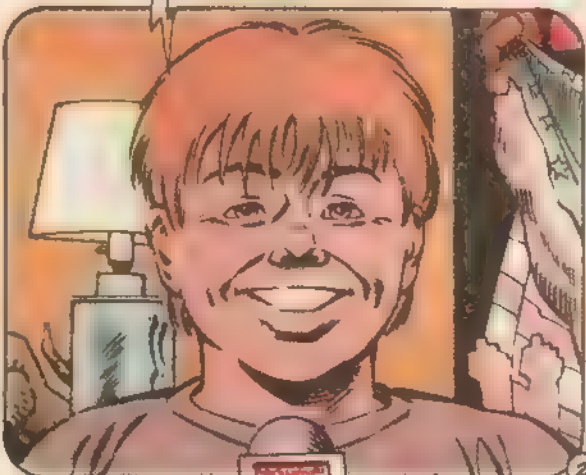
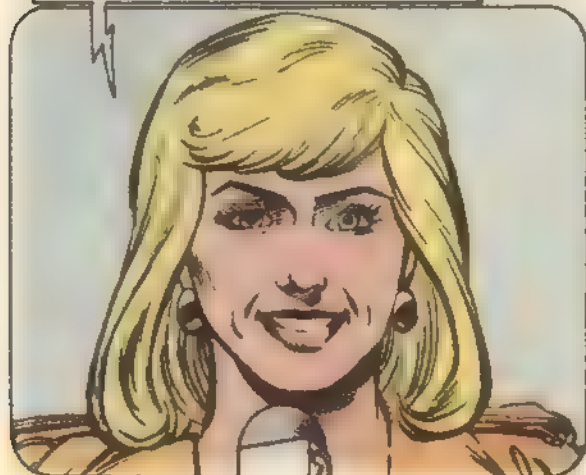
"LIEUTENANT, WE SEEM TO BE IN THE MIST OF A CRIME WAVE IN THE QUAD CITIES - IN ADDITION TO THIS LATEST KILLING, EYEWITNESSES UNDERSTANDS WILD DOG IS BACK ON THE SCENE..."

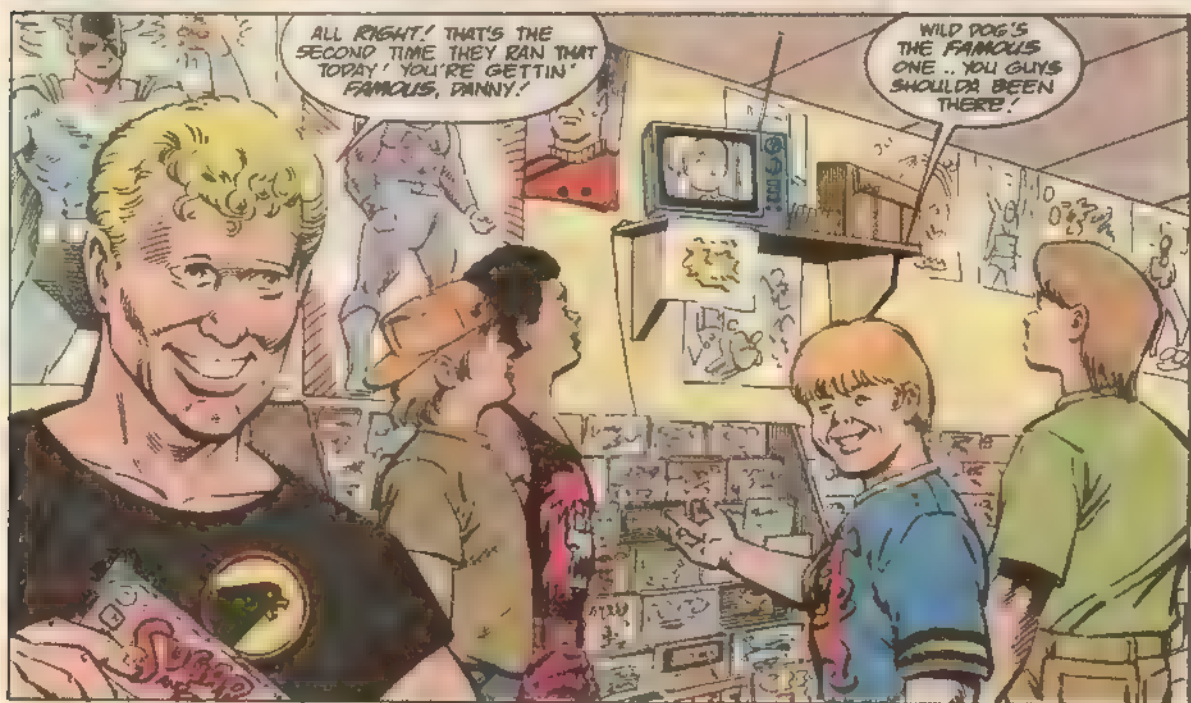
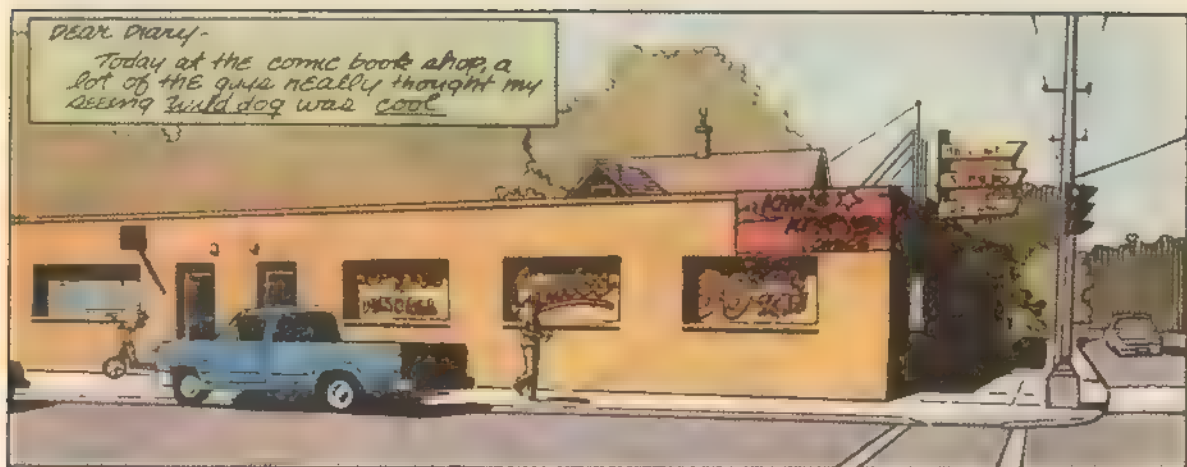
"THAT'S CORRECT, MS. KING - THE VIGILANTE THE PRESS ARE CALLING WILD DOG INTERRUPTED A CONVENIENCE STORE ROBBERY LAST NIGHT."

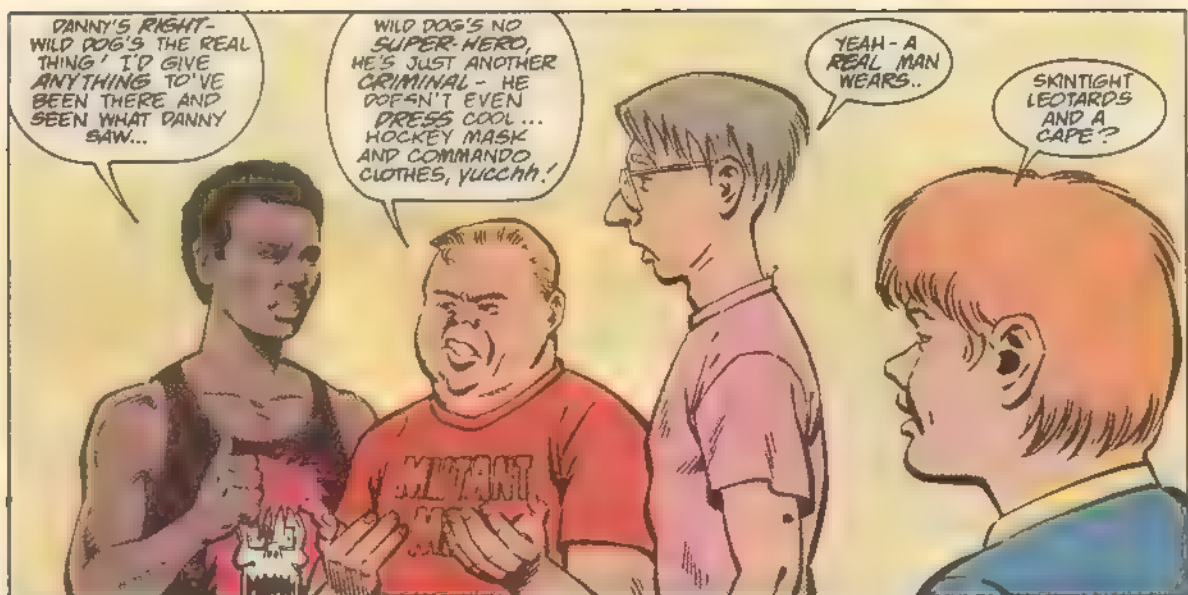


EARLIER TODAY I INTERVIEWED YOUNG DANIEL CROWN, THE THIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD SELF-PROCLAIMED "WILD DOG" FAN WHO WITNESSED HIS "HERO" SHOOT AND WOUND THE THREE ALLEGED BANDITS.

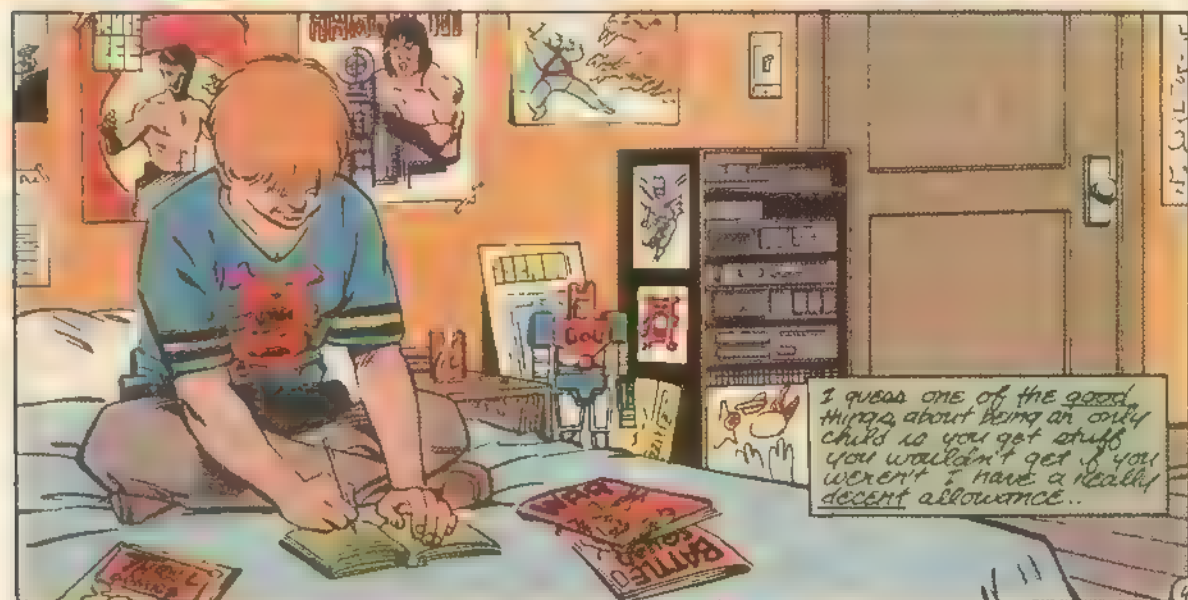
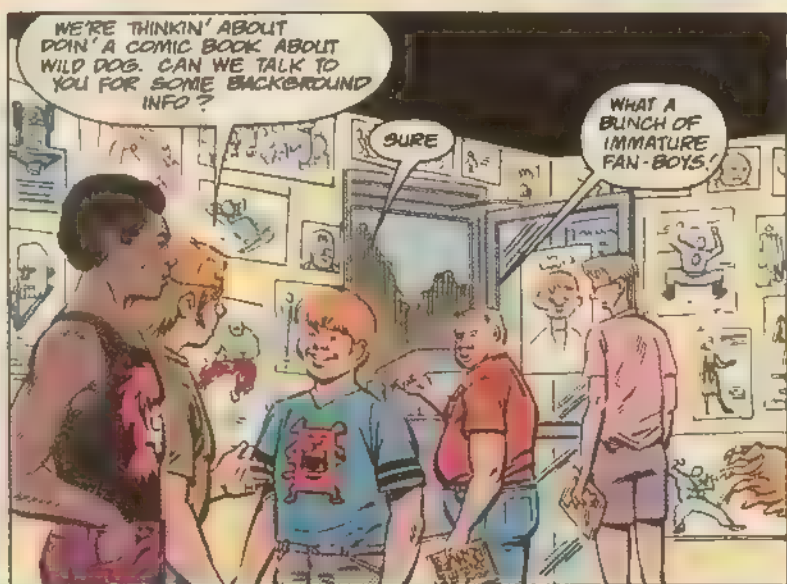
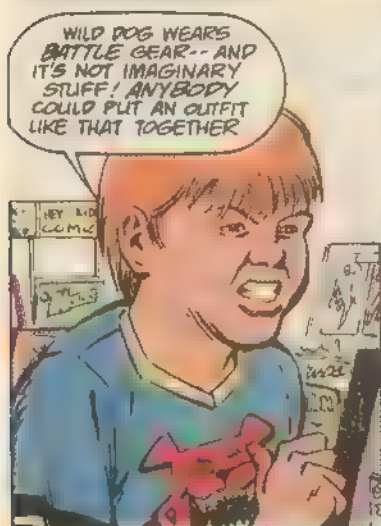
IT WAS REALLY COOL - HE SHOT THEIR LEGS RIGHT OUT FROM UNDER 'EM! HE WAS... AUDACIOUS!

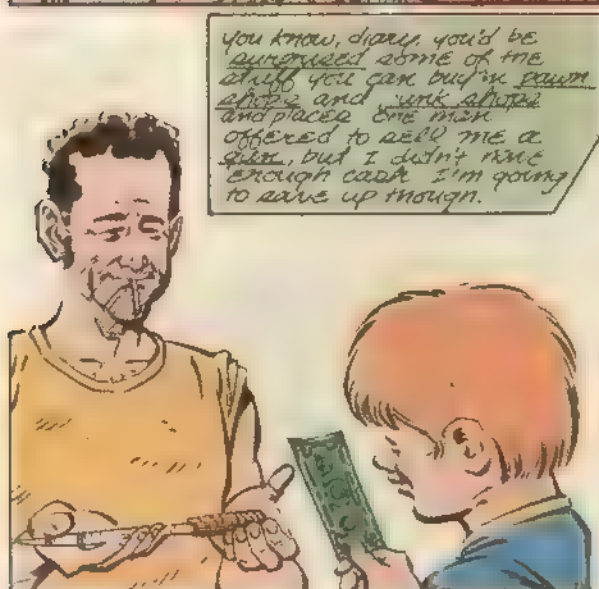
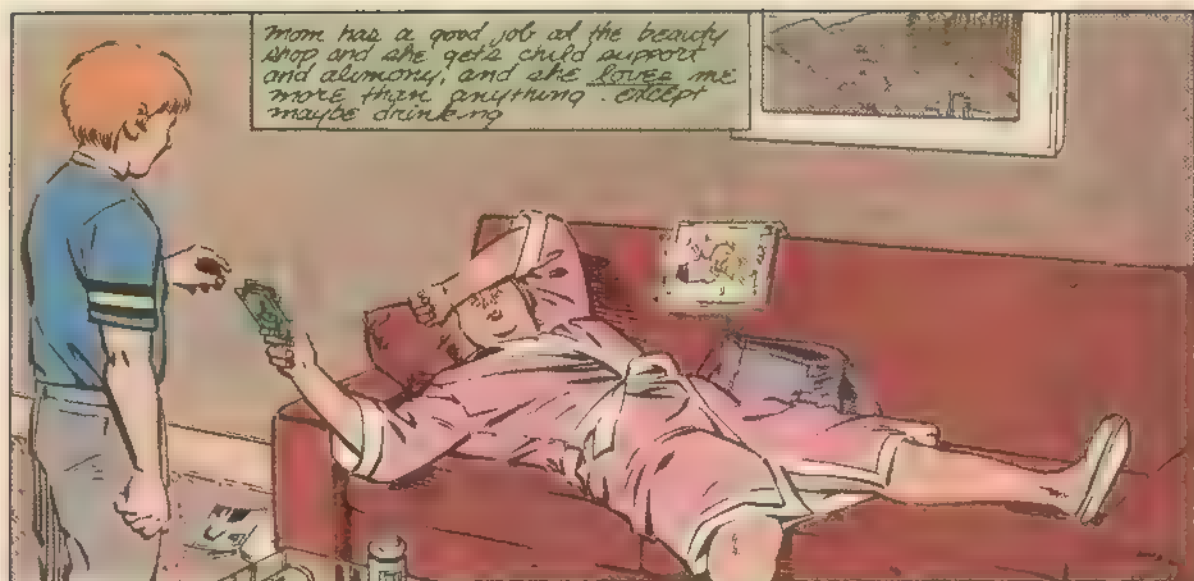




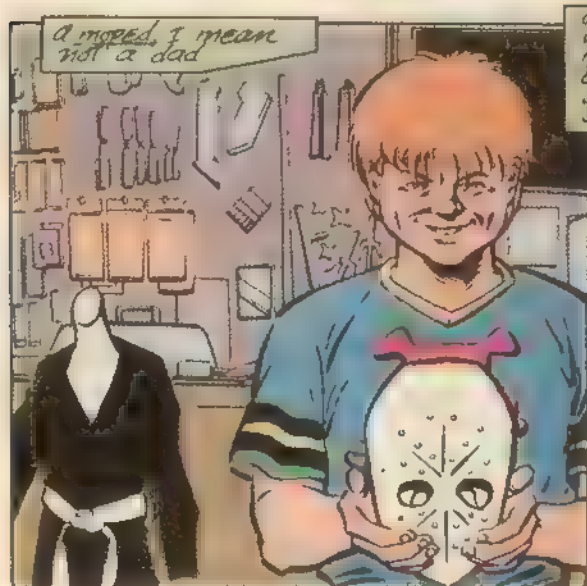
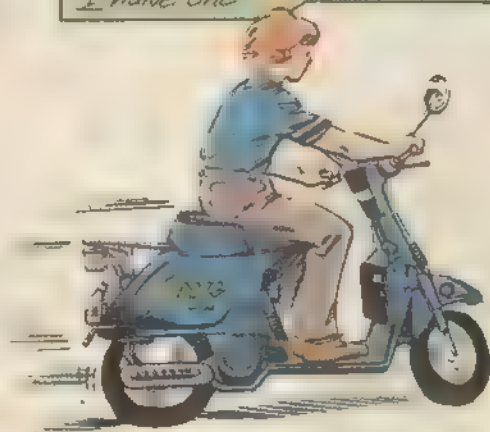


THAT'S WHEN I GOT THE OLD DIARY

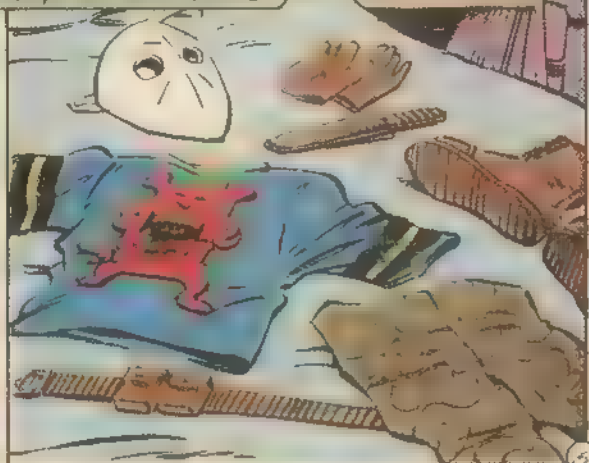




I know I can do it I saved up a whole year to get my moped one of my pals at school would give anything to have a moped, and he has money, but his dad won't let him have one I have one



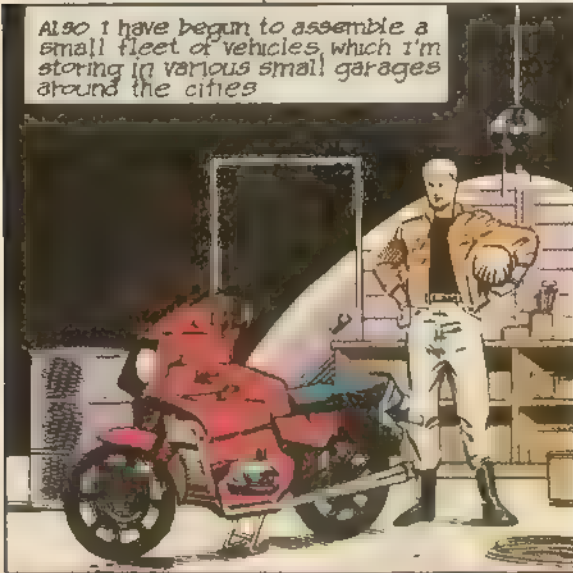
of course the best thing about not having brothers and sisters is having your own room. Mom almost never bothers me, either. she dates a couple of guys, and when she doesn't, she falls asleep on the couch



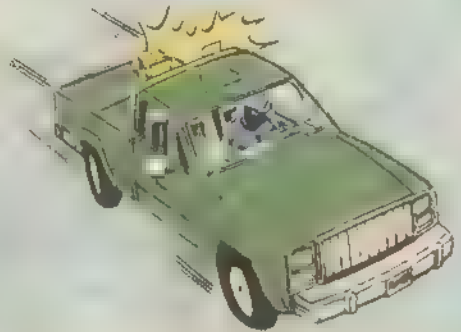


Combat Log: Night patrol, night two. I will risk riding in Rover tonight, but will need to re-paint the vehicle before going out in it again.

Also I have begun to assemble a small fleet of vehicles which I'm storing in various small garages around the cities



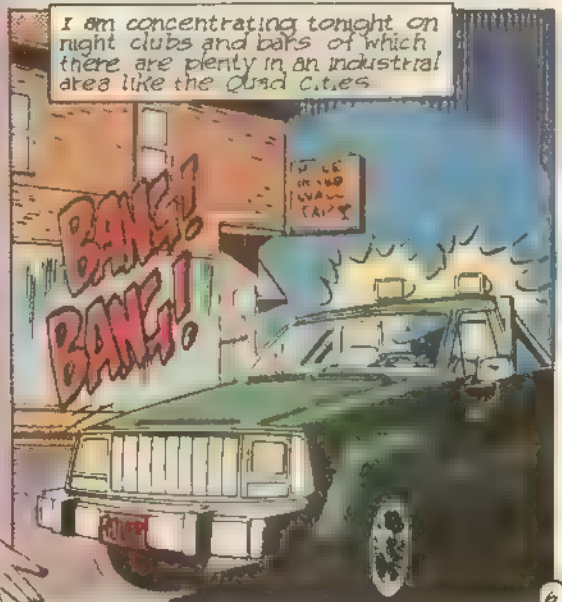
This should enable me to switch vehicles swiftly and secretly. Even Andy Flint doesn't know about this tactic

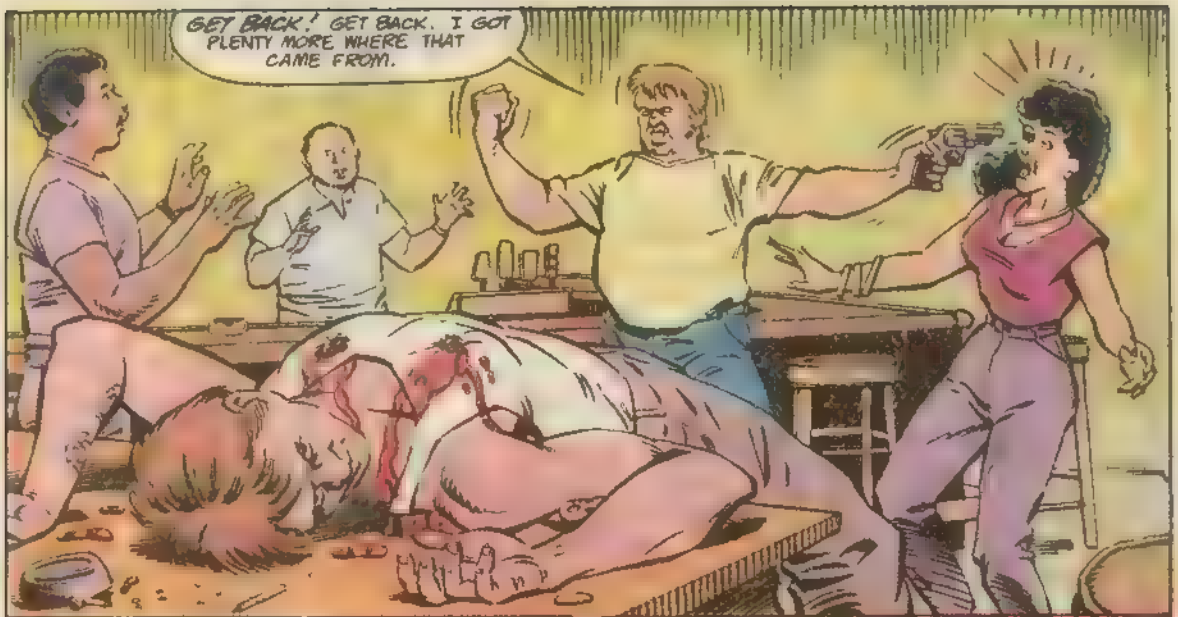


The so-called "night slasher" struck again last night, despite my patrolling

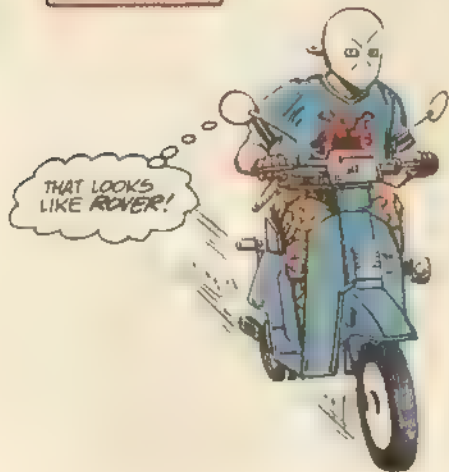


I am concentrating tonight on night clubs and bars of which there are plenty in an industrial area like the Quad Cities





"I'LL MAKE YOU
REAL SORRY,
BABY."





DC COMICS INC.

686 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10103

JENETTE KAHN President and Publisher

DICA GIORDANO V.P. - Executive Editor

MIKE GOLD Editor

BOB GREENBERGER Assoc. Editor

BRIAN AUGUSTYN Assoc. Editor

RICHARD BRUNING Art Director

TERRI CUNNINGHAM Mgr. Editorial Admin

PAT BASTIENNE Mgr. Editorial Coordinator

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PAUL LEVITZ Executive V.P.

JOE ORLANDO V.P. - Creative Director

BRUCE BRISTOW V.P. - Sales & Marketing

MATT RAGONE Circulation Director

PAT CALDON Controller

Dear Mr. Gold,

I want to thank and congratulate all the people who give us ACTION COMICS WEEKLY. An anthology title is something that has been needed for a long time. It allows you to present stories about characters that might not be able to carry their own titles without having to resort to another mini-series. It also allows you to try out new ideas and concepts, the way SHOWCASE did many years ago. And the weekly format means that I can keep the storylines fresh in my head without having to search my memory for what happened last month. (Which is difficult at times due to the large amount of comics and noncomics material that I read.)

I enjoyed all the features and hope they continue past their original run. Storywise, I found the Secret Six to be the most interesting, probably because it departs from the standard super-hero story and does not employ tiresome super-villains. I found the Blackhawk art the most exciting, but Gil Kane's work on Green Lantern runs a close second.

Superman came in last not due to a lack of quality, but because his story just doesn't move as fast as the others. I am also looking forward to the Nightwing and Black Canary stories. Any chance of having another female feature? Women are so poorly represented in the super-hero genre.

If ACTION COMICS WEEKLY proves to be a hit, how about reviving ADVENTURE as a weekly anthology, possibly with a couple adventure features? Maybe something along the lines of Tarzan, the Warlord, or the Challengers of the Unknown, possibly even a well-done war, horror, or western strip. As you can see I would like to see a little more diversity in comics, and I think you found the format to do it in.

Thank you again for a bold new direction in comics, and I hope for your continued success.

John Gettel
3058 Rothbury #3
East Lansing, MI 48823

Boy, I'd love to see an adventure-oriented ADVENTURE COMICS. Of course, conventional comics wisdom dictates an anthology comic, if it is to be successful at all, be made up of super-heroes and mutants, if at all humanly possible. Still, simply grinding out more of the same old thing is boring, so we'll continue to experiment with non-main stream series here in ACW.

And, who knows, maybe some day we

can look forward to the return of ADVENTURE COMICS!

.....

Dear ACTION

Stunning cover! Eye-catching! Now what? Huh? What? Oh yeah (drumroll, please), the Review!

The Green Lantern story. What in the world is going on here? Who's this alien? What does it want with Carol? I shall have to wait but one week to find out!

The Deadman story. Ahhhh. This story's shaping up. Into what, I have no idea. Aliens? Demons? Deadman has his work cut out for him. As I said in my last letter, "It was a good story. A weird one, but a good one."

The Wild Dog story. As Wild Dog himself said, "I like it!" Heh heh. That's it, Wild Dog. Blow 'em away, just blow 'em away! Remember, those guys did the unspeakable. They blew up a comic book store. Me, violent? Of course not. Heh heh.

Superman. See that dude kneeling in front of Superman? Yeah, him. He's a little goofy, ain't he?

The Secret Six. This story is very, very interesting. I like the way the new group is handling itself. They're looking good. This Mockingbird thing is nice too. I wonder what's in the package.

Blackhawk. I just love this guy's smirk. This story was good but just a little bit too slow. Just a little.

Nick Damon
4640 Grisham Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90805

.....

THE GREAT ACTION COMICS WEEKLY POLL!

ACW #605 (previous issue's standing in parentheses)

- 1 Blackhawk (1)
- 2 Green Lantern (2)
- 3 Deadman (4)
- 4 Wild Dog (3)
- 5 Secret Six (5)
- 6 Superman (6)

.....

Dear Mike & Co

Votes for ACTION #605

First Wild Dog. Still the only strip to fully take advantage of the format rather than be shackled by it. Max understands that you don't have to end each

chapter with a cliff-hanger, yet at the same time manages to finish with a natural break, a moment that makes you wonder what's going to happen next. No melodrama, no plane crashes or heroes in impossible traps, just waiting to see what the next page brings.

Second Blackhawk. Lovely Burchett art and Gail's innuendos and sexual hang-ups written into the script continue to amuse me greatly. Still doesn't fit in with the Superman strip, though, in terms of the intended readership.

Third: Green Lantern. The first good chapter since the opening one. A bit of a look at the characters, a bit better art combination from Gil and Don. At the same time Hal's struggle to assert his will was a little forced, but with a suitable ending. But the rematch was so short as to demand another meeting very soon, otherwise it'll leave a dissatisfied taste in the mouth.

Fourth: Superman. At last a surprise, a twist, with Superman hailed as a god. The first interesting thing to happen in this strip. You may be writing this in the style of a newspaper strip but you have to remember that unlike a newspaper strip, the readers of this story are already die-hard comic readers and Superman fans.

Fifth: Secret Six. At last someone's worked out that Mockingbird's continued existence means not all have died in the crash, and the hint is that he's Rafael's father. But the only other thing that happened was Brockman's TV confession, skillfully engineered. The rest is filler.

Sixth: Deadman. The only good bit was the last panel. The way Deadman fooled the guard into stumbling into the control box was horribly contrived, very un-Baron-like. But I'm sure it'll be better next issue.

Overall, Mike, I've heard mixed reviews on the new ACTION. There's time to learn, but for the most part the format is a problem for the writers, it seems, who aren't used to writing eight page segments, with the exception of Max Collins. At the same time, the good points are the mix of characters, all different types of story, and the fact that this allows five strips that might not hold their own book to be featured in a DC comic.

I'd argue there's no need to cram so much into each issue, just let it flow as naturally as a full-length story and work out in advance how to put an equal amount into each of the chapters you're plotting. Also, while I love the Black-

hawk strip the sexual content puts it on a more "adult" level than the others

Malcolm Bourne
87 Greenfield Gardens
Cricklewood
London NW2 1HU
ENGLAND

Dear Mike

Green Lantern is still the best. Wild Dog is a "dog," Superman seems too short, Blackhawk continues to appear as a "bad" guy rather than a war hero, Deadman is "alive" with excitement, and the secret of the Secret Six makes interesting entertainment

Each week, I've gone to the comics shop and gotten my new issue of ACTION COMICS WEEKLY. And each week, I've noticed a lot of unsold copies. I'm concerned that not enough people will support it to make it a good business venture for you. I hope that fan interest will increase as the word spreads about the quality.

Maybe it would help if you eliminated the Wild Dog feature and used a better-known, more exciting character such as Aquaman, Hawkman, Atom, Batman, or the Martian Manhunter. I would personally like to see some of my old-time favorites such as Tomahawk, Pow Wow Smith, Nighthawk, or the Challengers of the Unknown be given a tryout.

Issue #605 continued to showcase the talent of some of your most successful artists and also gave us a taste of some future greats in Andy and Adam Kubert's beautiful cover, which was done so impressively in limited colors. It's too bad that Gil Kane evidently couldn't get time to do his own inks, because that is one of the things I felt gave Hal Jordan that extra touch of Silver Age magic, but Simpson and Giordano did a fine job in covering for him. Giordano is, in my opinion, a superb inker, and I always enjoy looking at his work.

The Deadman story continues to be well written and beautifully illustrated. I'm beginning to pick up the threads of the Secret Six story, and I think Dan Spiggle is great! I usually buy anything I find of his and collect quite a bit of the stuff he did for Dell and Gold Key.

I still don't like Wild Dog due to the violence, the cheap shot he's taking at conservative religion, and the poor quality of the artwork. It reminds me of some of the cheapo rags Charlton put out in the Sixties, very stiff and plain. (That's not to imply that every Charlton was bad, because they had some good stuff occasionally.)

I wish you would clean up Blackhawk's image, although I must admit that the artwork is appropriate for the time period it supposedly takes place in, and that keeps it from being a total waste.

One final suggestion: Captain Marvel is a great super-hero. Once he outgirds Superman. You had a mini series that I thought was quite good that featured the Big Red Cheese. Why not bring him to ACTION COMICS WEEKLY?

Keep up the good work, and make mine DC!

Coy Brown
222 LaMond Ruelle
Winchester, KY 40391

Didn't you ask for a Shazam! series a couple weeks ago, Coy? Well, you've got it... or, at least, you will, in seven weeks.

While you're casting your votes in our weekly surveys, please include a line or two of comment on the stories themselves. We're getting a ton of votes each week and we're getting our share of letters of comment, but there are a whole lot of people who are *only* voting. That's okay by us, but if you've got the time to include a few words of comment as well, hey, that's even better.

Mike

I have to admit that the plot twist in the Sunday Superman strip caught my attention. It was unexpected enough to earn a sixth spot again this week. I'm being unfair, of course, but it's gaining my respect.

I think I see a problem developing with the Secret Six. There are so many main characters that eight pages makes it tough to keep track of them when they're not in the same room. Hopefully that problem will clear up, because I like the basic premise.

Wild Dog seems poised to be exciting next week. This is the only storyline that I'm anxious to see end, not because I don't like Wild Dog (I do), but because I want to see this villain get his. Keep it up!

The personalities in Blackhawk are so

firmly established that I felt I knew what Blackhawk would say before I read it! I never thought of Prohaska in the same light as James Bond or James West.

Although I felt that Deadman's escape was very contrived, I liked the story. One cliff-hanger to the next, that's Deadman. He gets into more trouble!

Okay, so I'm a sucker for "hero prevails-against-all-odds" stories. I hope we don't have to wait long to find out where Sapphire went. Green Lantern gets the first-place vote this week.

Ray Rizer
422 Oak
Llwood, KS 66024

Next week Superman, Green Lantern, Blackhawk, Wild Dog, and Nightwing are back and The Phantom Stranger drops by. *Mister X's* Dean Motter provides a unique Superman cover.

See you in seven!

Mike Gold

***** VOTE! *****

Just as soon as you've finished this issue of ACTION COMICS WEEKLY, write us a letter or a postcard and rank this issue's stories in order of preference: the one you like the most first, the one you liked next second, and so on. Each week we'll tally the vote and print the results right here in our letter column. Your opinion counts, so VOTE!

Send your ballots to:

Action Comics Weekly
Department 616
DC Comics Inc.
666 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10103

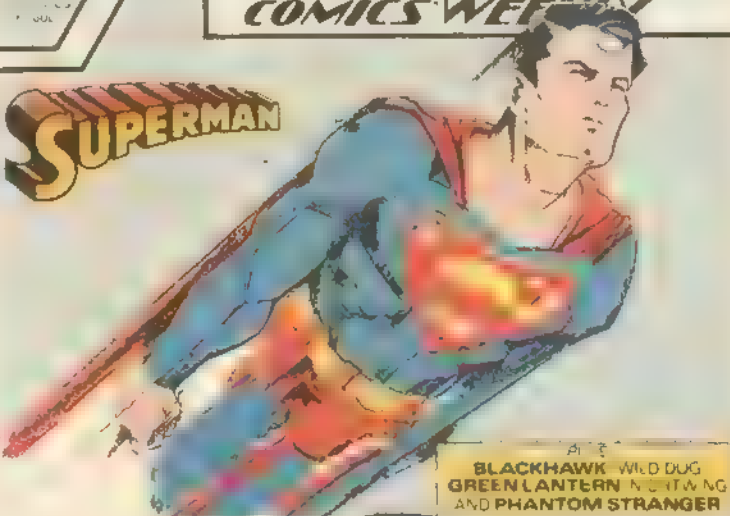


NO 617
\$1.50

48 PAGES EVERY WEEK

ACTION

COMICS WEEKLY



SUPERMAN

BLACKHAWK WILD DOG
GREEN LANTERN NIGHTWING
AND PHANTOM STRANGER

SUPERMAN

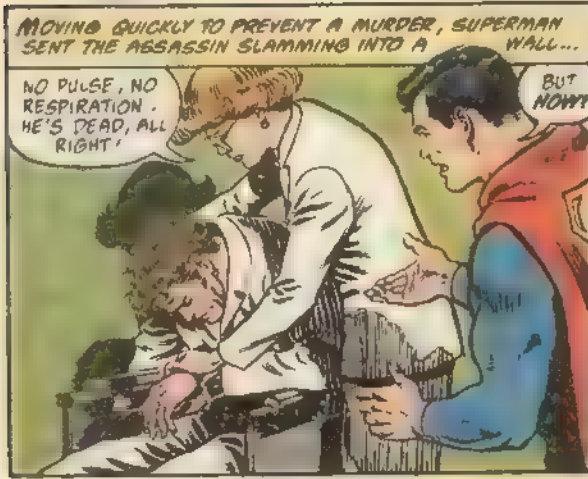
Created by
JERRY SIEGEL &
JOE SHUSTER

"DEAD MEN"

MOVING QUICKLY TO PREVENT A MURDER, SUPERMAN SENT THE ASSASSIN SLAMMING INTO A WALL...

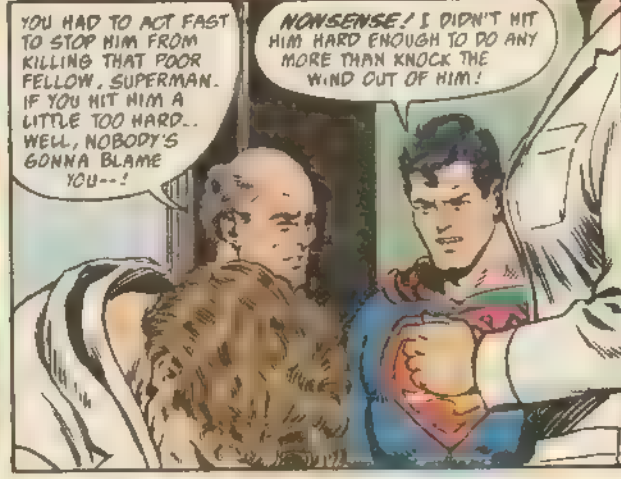
NO PULSE, NO RESPIRATION. HE'S DEAD, ALL RIGHT!

BUT HOW?

A panel showing Superman in his red and blue suit with a yellow 'S' on his chest. He is looking down at a man lying on a gurney. A doctor in a white lab coat is also looking at the man. The man has a dark, bruised face and is not moving.

YOU HAD TO ACT FAST TO STOP HIM FROM KILLING THAT POOR FELLOW, SUPERMAN. IF YOU HIT HIM A LITTLE TOO HARD... WELL, NOBODY'S GONNA BLAME YOU--!

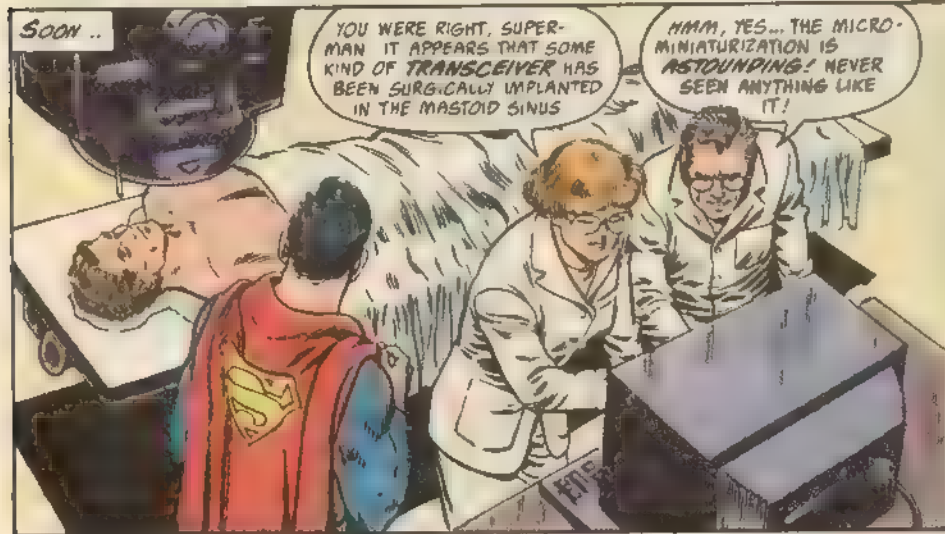
NONSENSE! I DIDN'T HIT HIM HARD ENOUGH TO DO ANY MORE THAN KNOCK THE WIND OUT OF HIM!

A panel showing Superman and the doctor from the previous panel. The doctor is speaking to Superman, who is looking at him with a serious expression. The man on the gurney is still in the background.

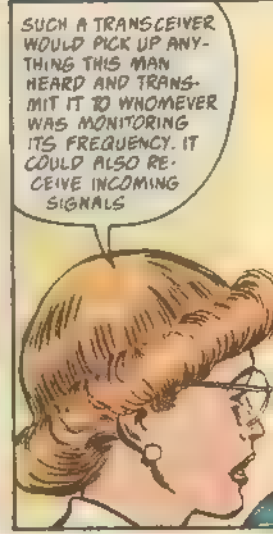
SOON...

YOU WERE RIGHT, SUPERMAN. IT APPEARS THAT SOME KIND OF TRANSCEIVER HAS BEEN SURGICALLY IMPLANTED IN THE MASTOID SINUS.

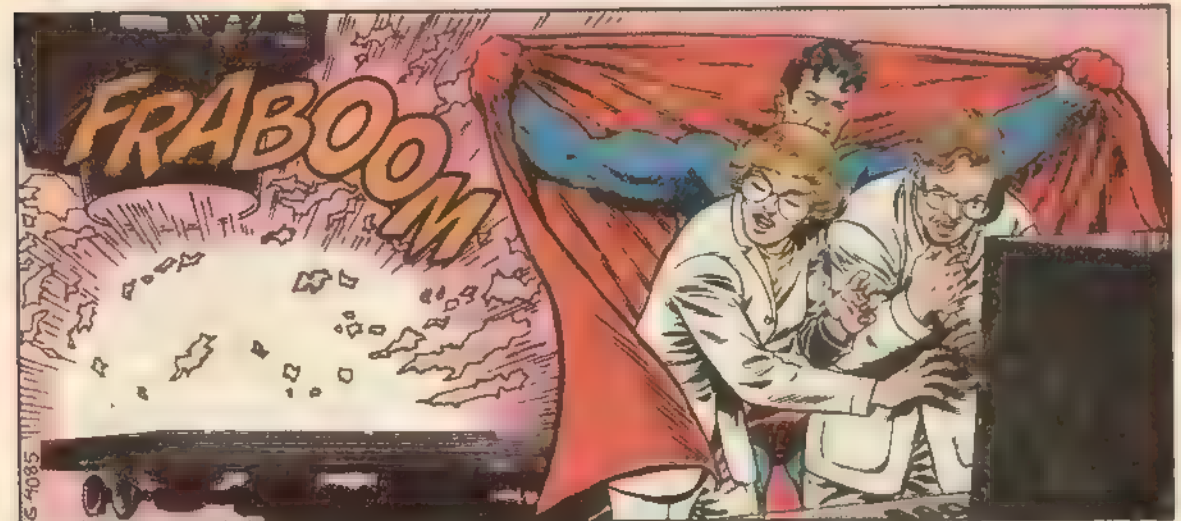
HMM, YES... THE MICRO-MINIATURIZATION IS ASTOUNDING! NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT!

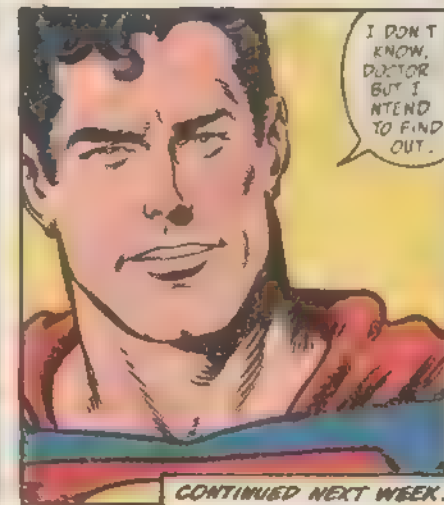
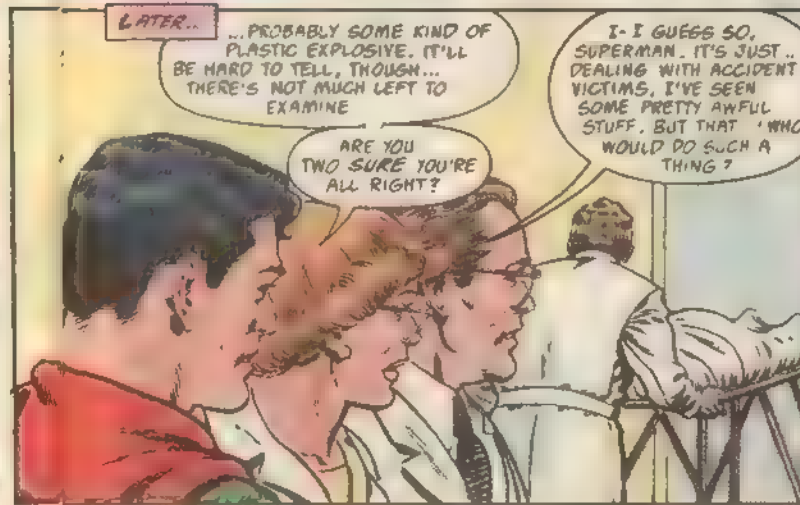
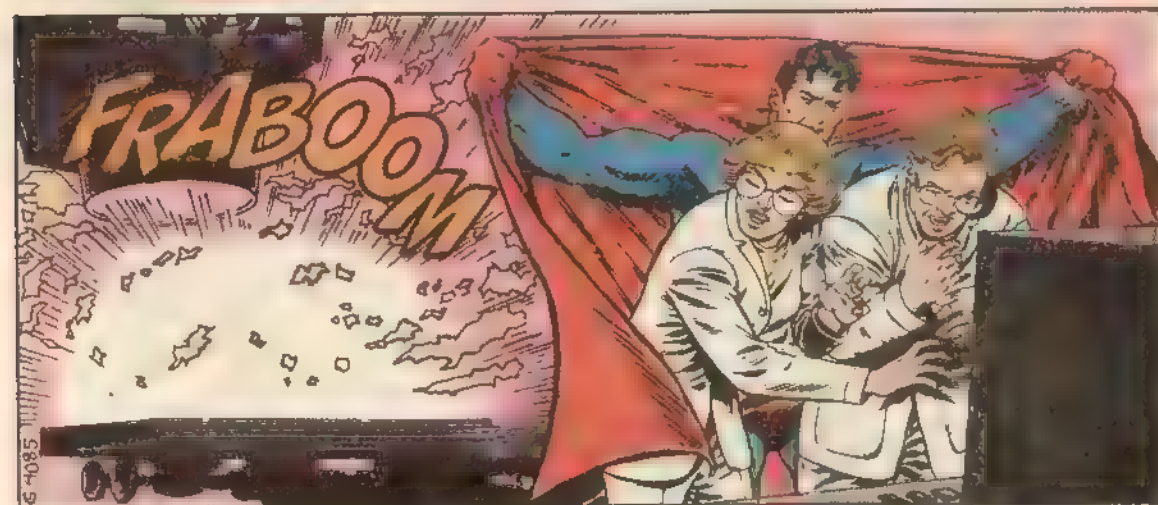
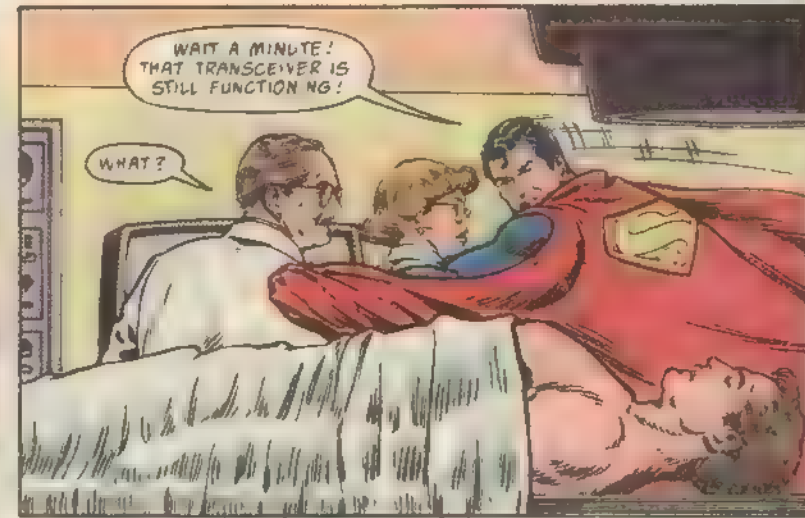
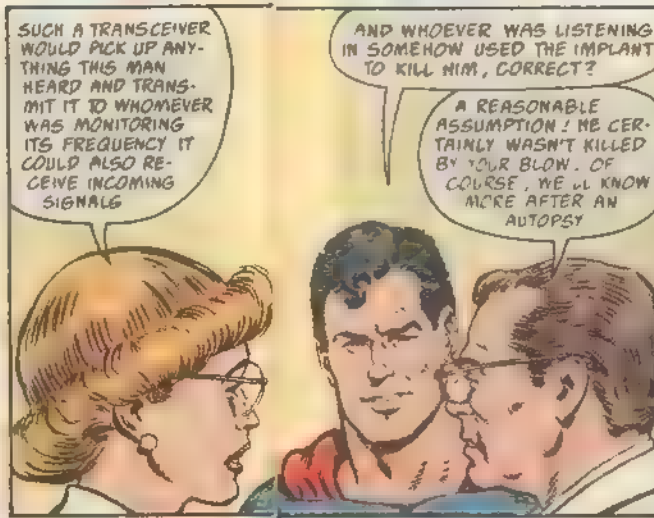
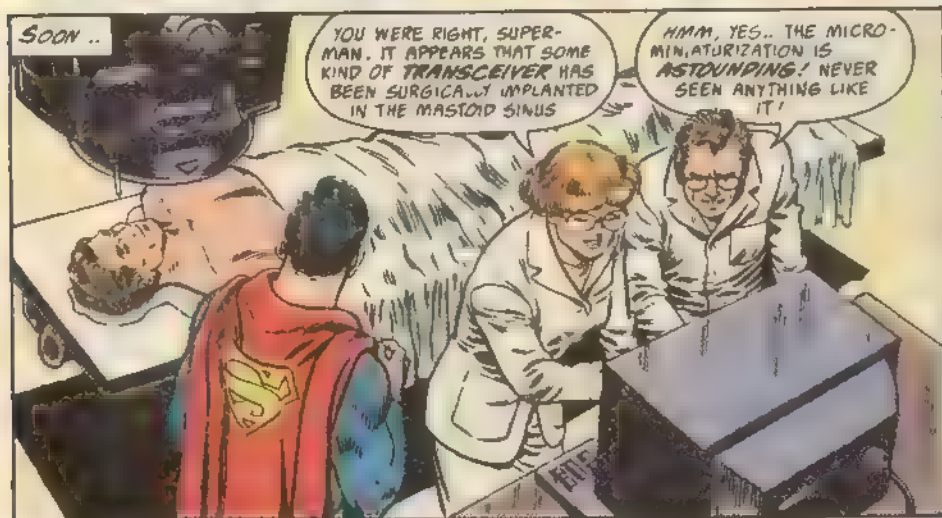
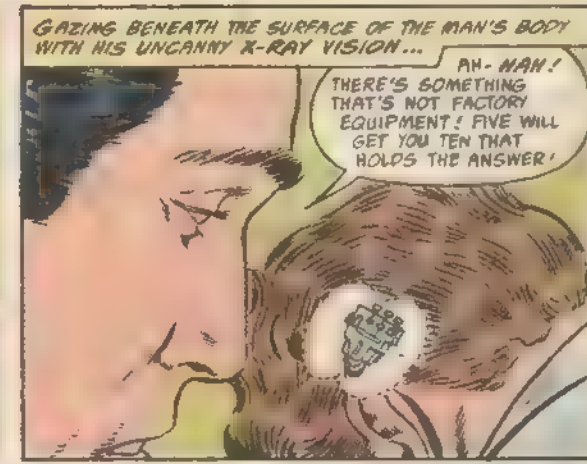
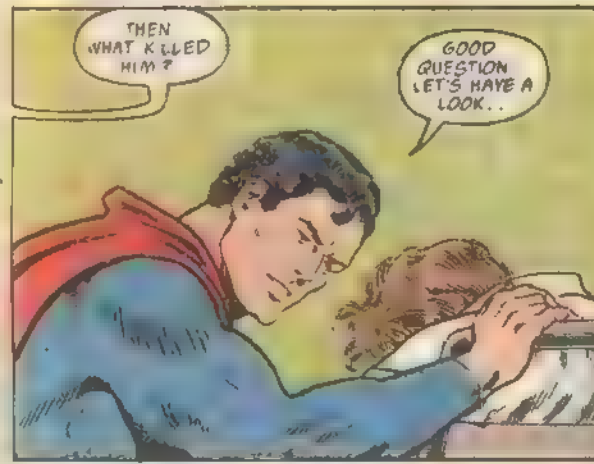
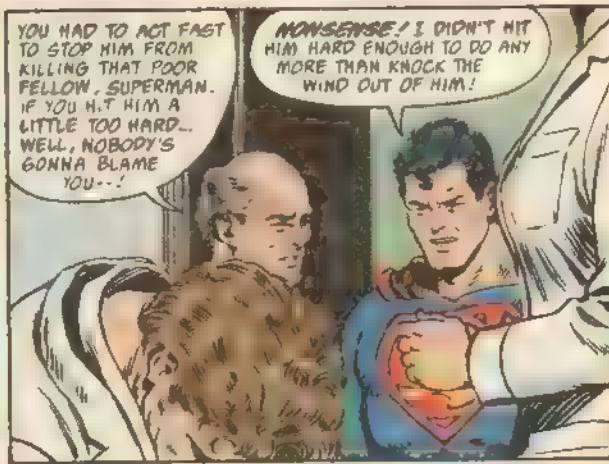
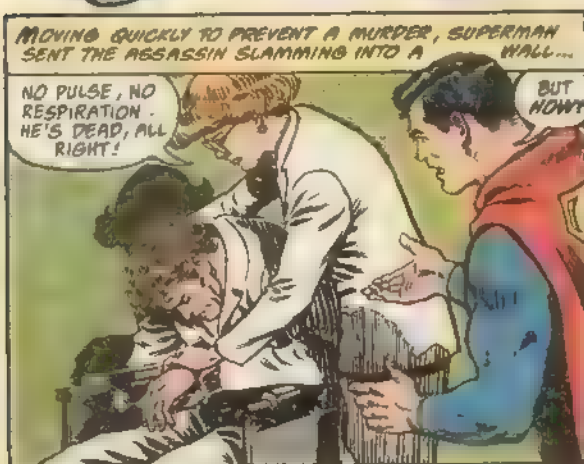
A panel showing Superman standing in a laboratory. Two doctors are working on a piece of equipment. One doctor is looking at a small device, while the other is looking at a computer screen. Superman is looking on with interest.

SUCH A TRANSCEIVER WOULD PICK UP ANYTHING THIS MAN HEARD AND TRANSMIT IT TO WHOMEVER WAS MONITORING ITS FREQUENCY. IT COULD ALSO RECEIVE INCOMING SIGNALS.

A panel showing a close-up of the doctor's face. He is looking up and speaking, with a concerned expression.

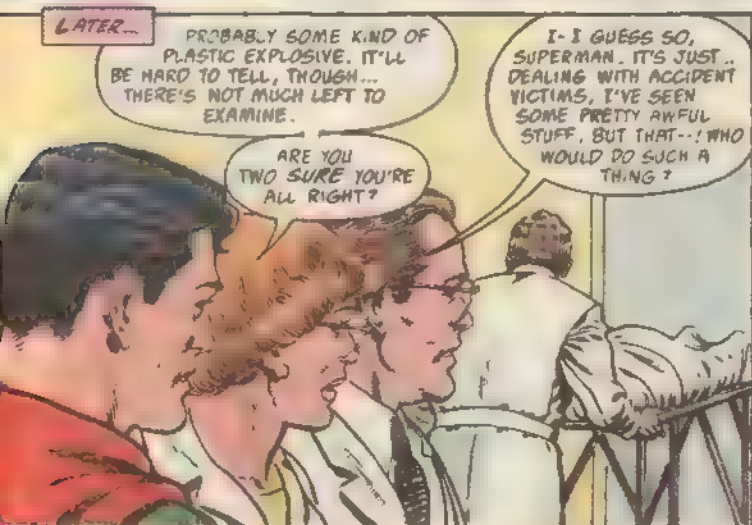
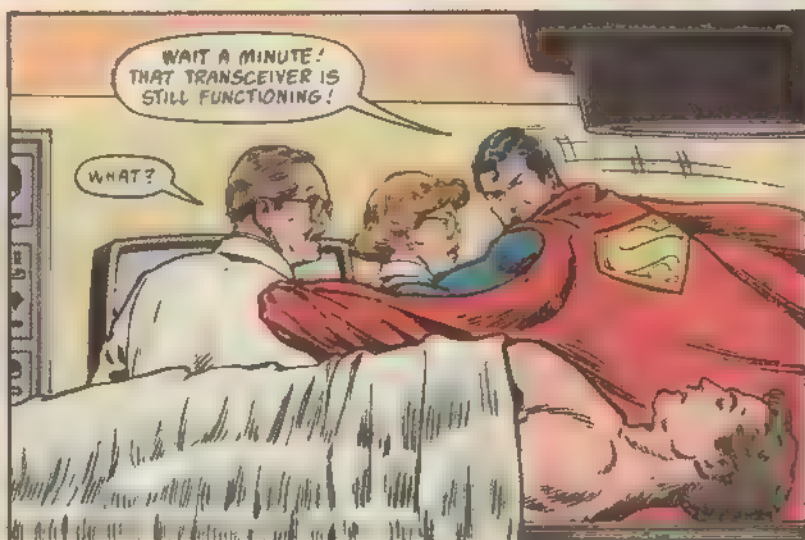
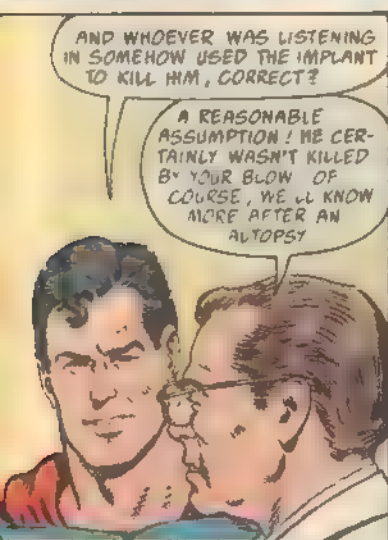
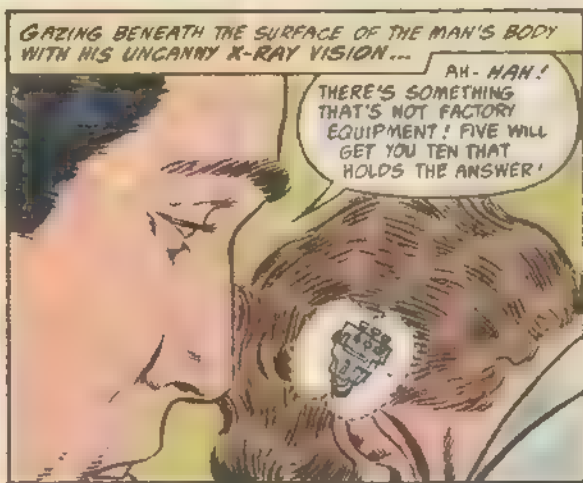
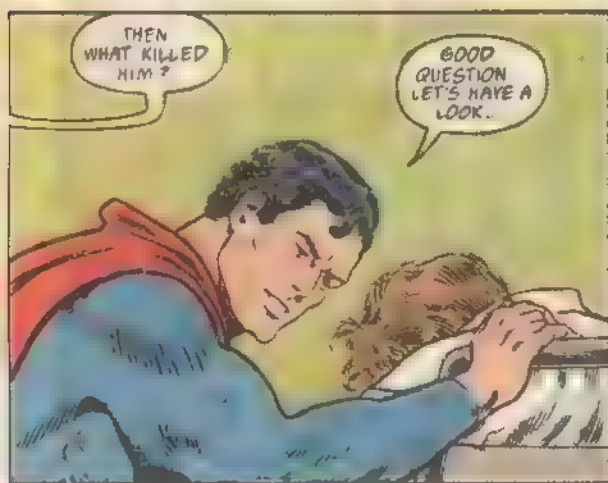
FRABOOM

A large panel showing a massive explosion. A large red and blue cape is flying through the air. In the foreground, the two doctors are looking on in shock. The background is filled with smoke and debris. The word 'FRABOOM' is written in large, stylized letters across the top of the panel.



TELL NO TALES"

ROGER STERN - WRITER
CURT SWAN - PENCILLER
MURPHY ANDERSON - INKER
BILL OAKLEY - LETTERER
PETRA SCOTSE - COLORIST
MIKE CARLIN - EDITOR



CONTINUED NEXT WEEK!

THE CHESHIRE CONTRACT

CHAPTER FOUR COUNTERPOINT

"WHY AM I SO NERVOUS? I'VE BEEN PLANNING THIS FOR WEEKS EVER SINCE MY FRIENDS AT THE C.B.I. LET SLIP THAT CHESHIRE WOULD BE IN LONDON."

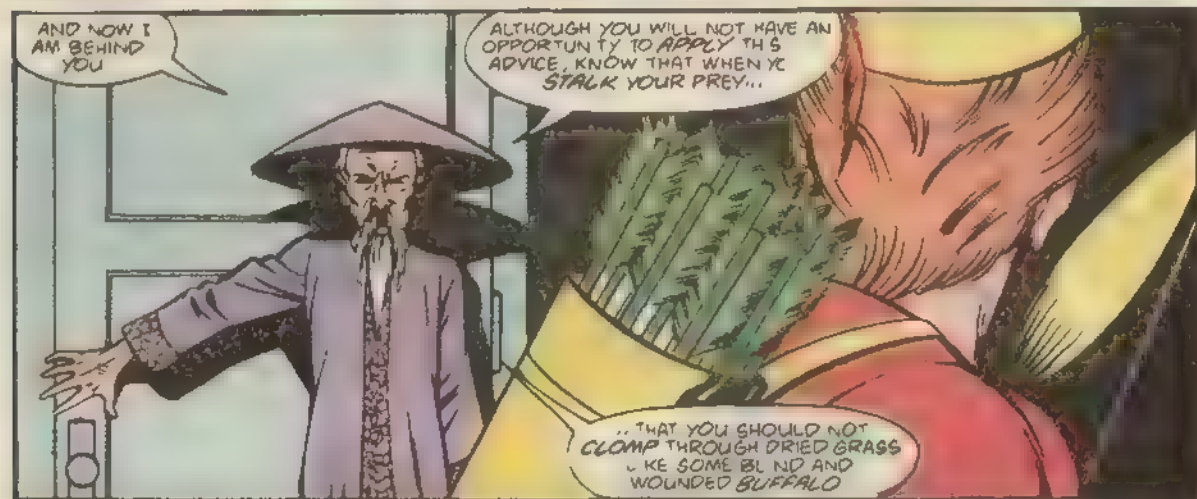
"MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I KNOW I MAY HAVE TO KILL HER. I CAN'T SEE HER LETTING ME GET AWAY."

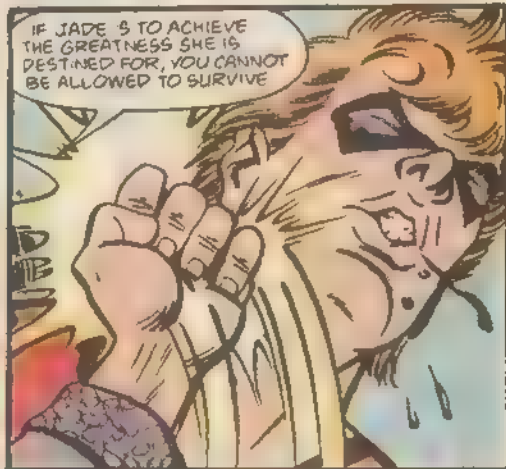
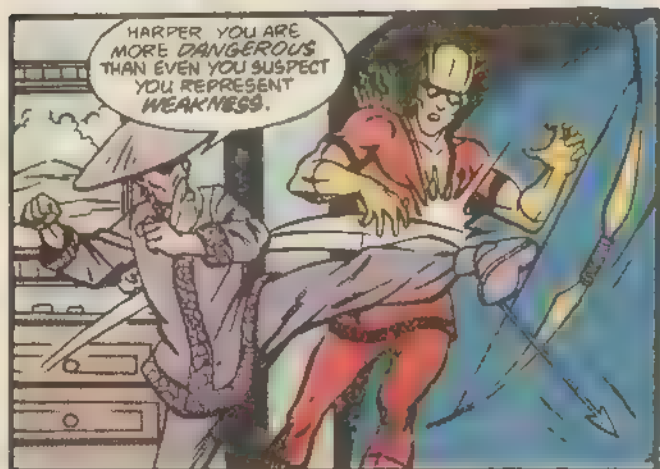
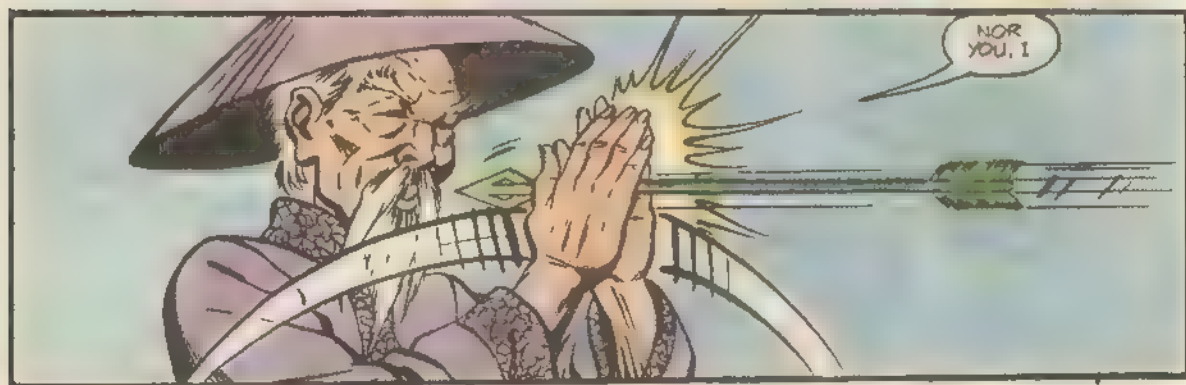
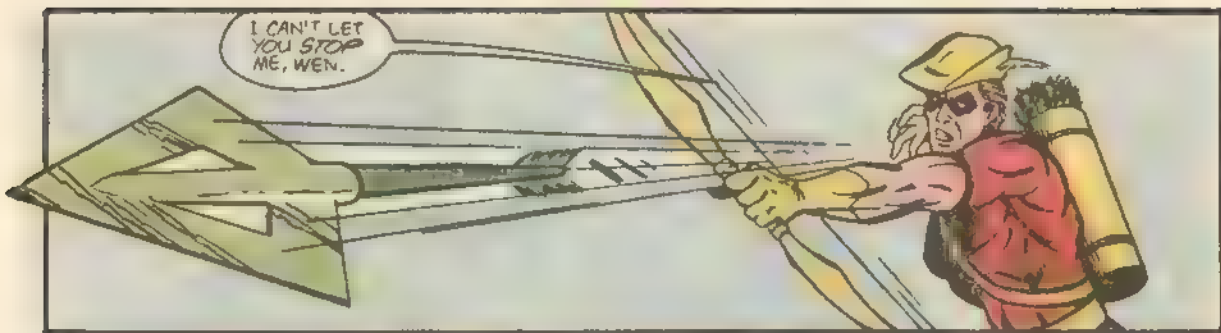
"I'VE NEVER INTENTIONALLY GONE OUT TO KILL BEFORE."

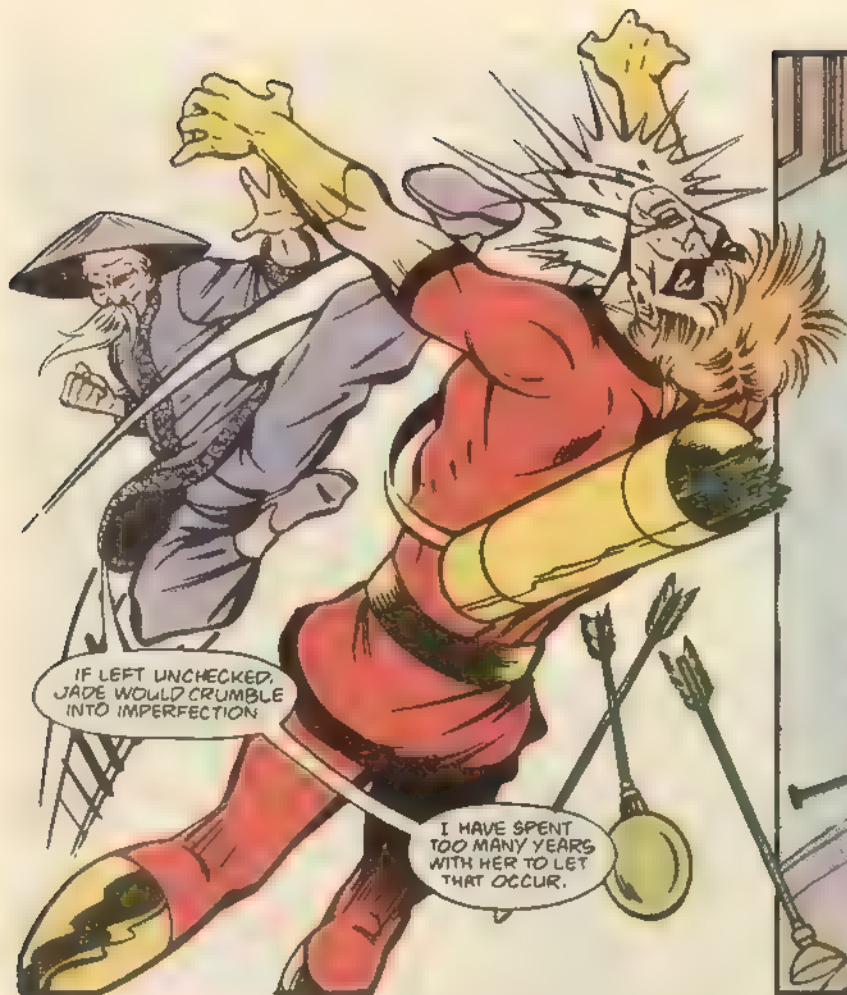
"WHY DO I HOPE DICK FINDS ME AND STOPS ME BEFORE I DO?"

NIGHTWING

MARV WOLFMAN • CHUCK PATTON • TOM POSTON
WRITER PENCILLER INKER
ALBERT DEGUZMAN • ANTHONY TOLLIN • BARBARA KESEL
LETTERER COLORIST EDITOR

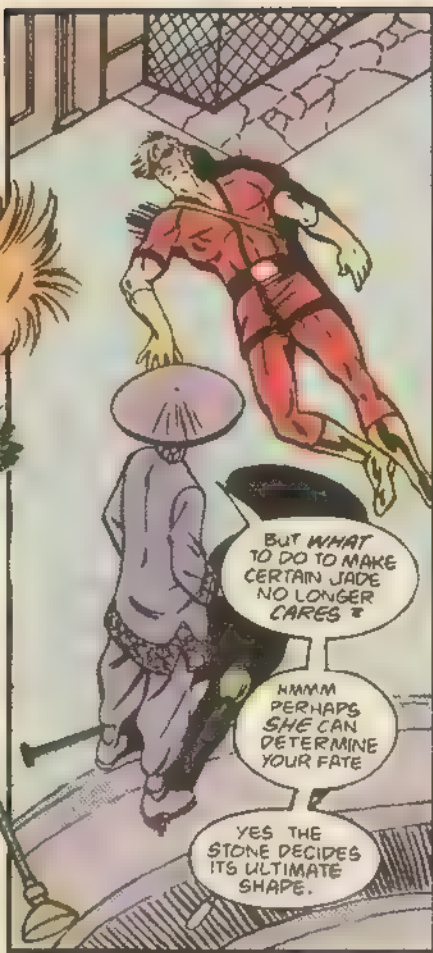






IF LEFT UNCHECKED,
JADE WOULD CRUMBLE
INTO IMPERFECTION

I HAVE SPENT
TOO MANY YEARS
WITH HER TO LET
THAT OCCUR.



BUT WHAT
TO DO TO MAKE
CERTAIN JADE
NO LONGER
CARES?

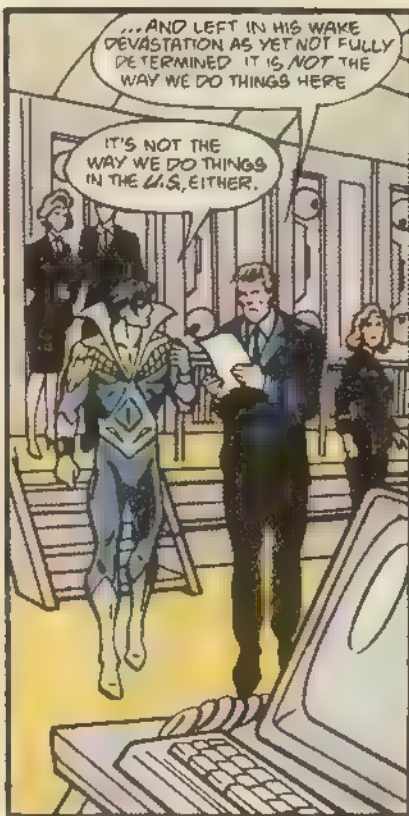
MMMM
PERHAPS
SHE CAN
DETERMINE
YOUR FATE

YES THE
STONE DECIDES
ITS ULTIMATE
SHAPE.



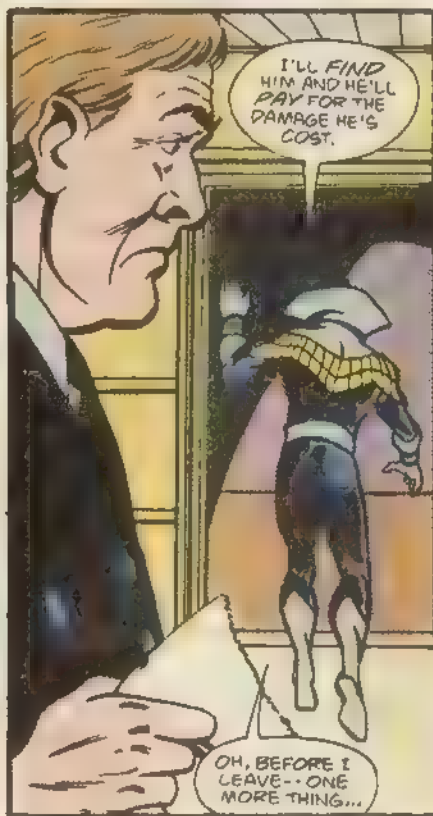
LOOK AT
THESE REPORTS,
NIGHTWING. THEY
ARE DEPLORABLE.

YOUR FRIEND
VISITED SEVERAL
PUBS, ROUGHED UP
THE CUSTOMERS ..



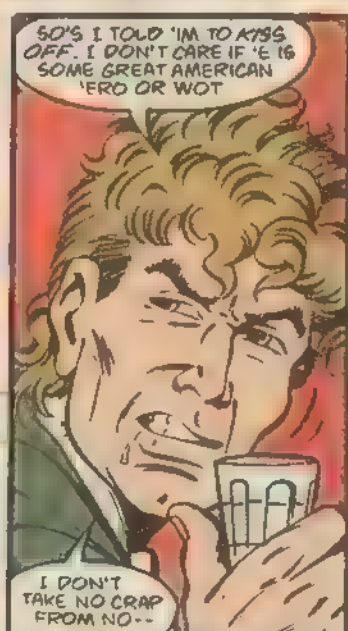
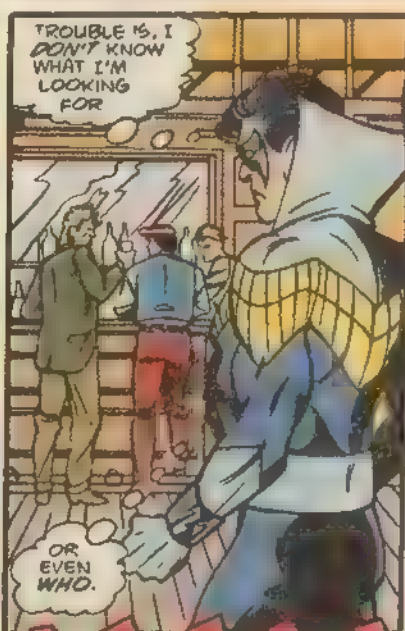
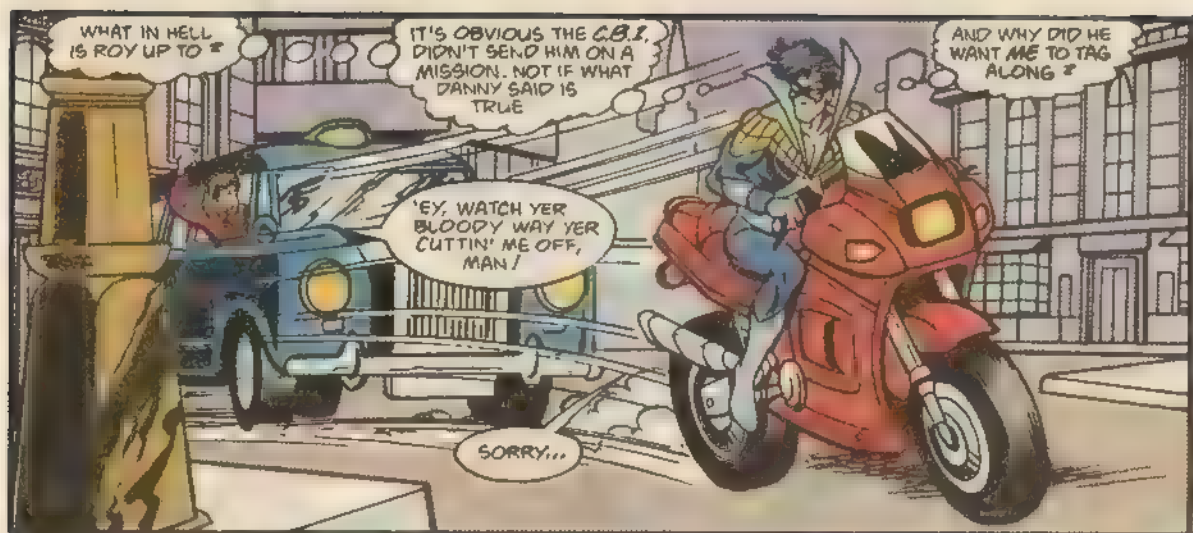
...AND LEFT IN HIS WAKE
DEVASTATION AS YET NOT FULLY
DETERMINED IT IS NOT THE
WAY WE DO THINGS HERE

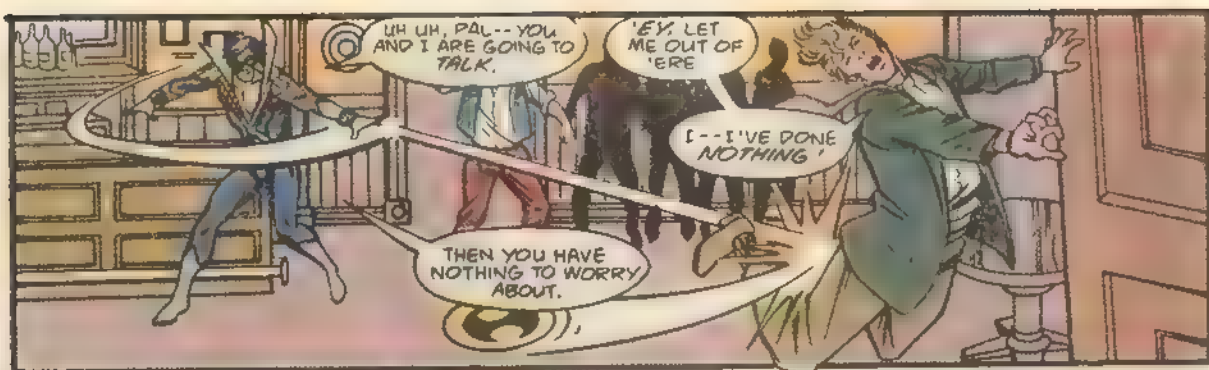
IT'S NOT THE
WAY WE DO THINGS
IN THE U.S. EITHER.

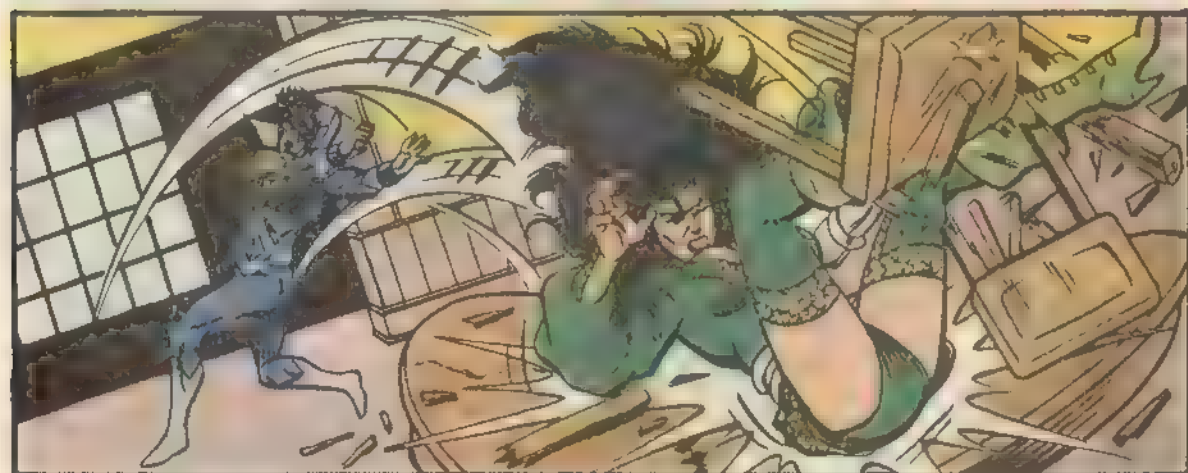
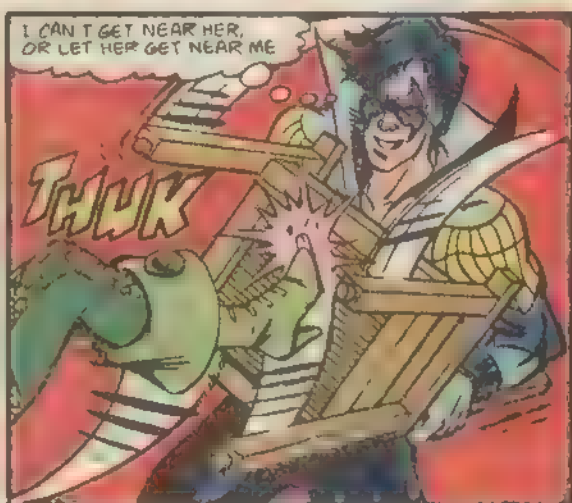
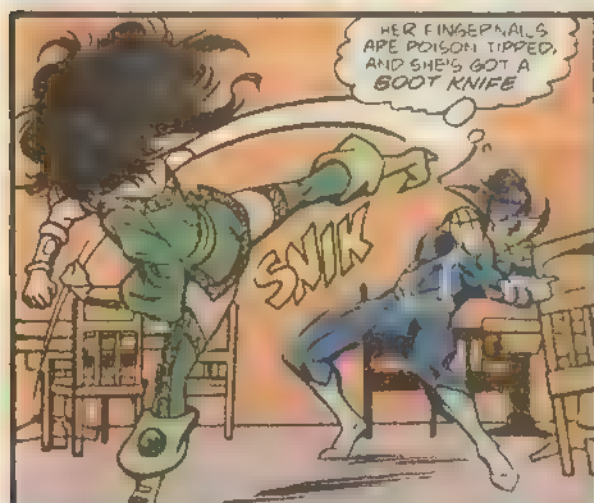


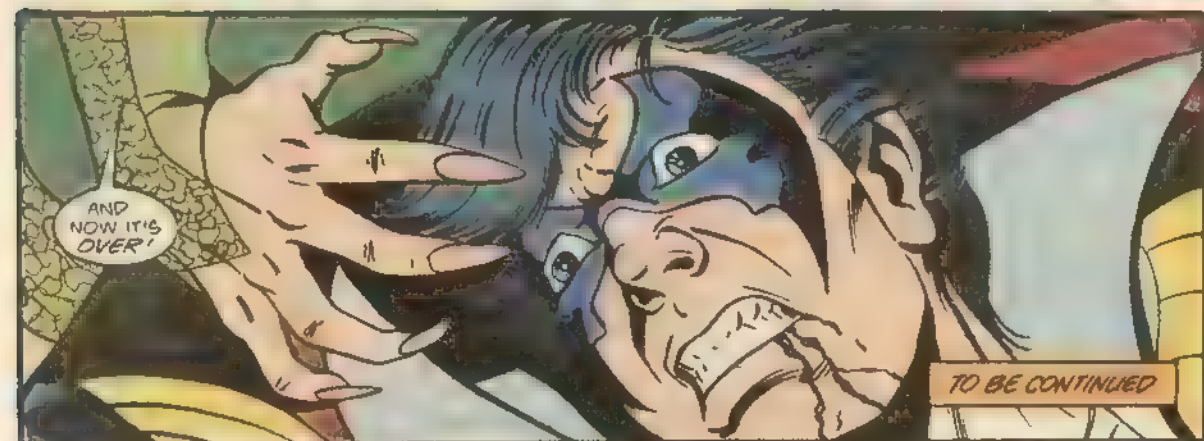
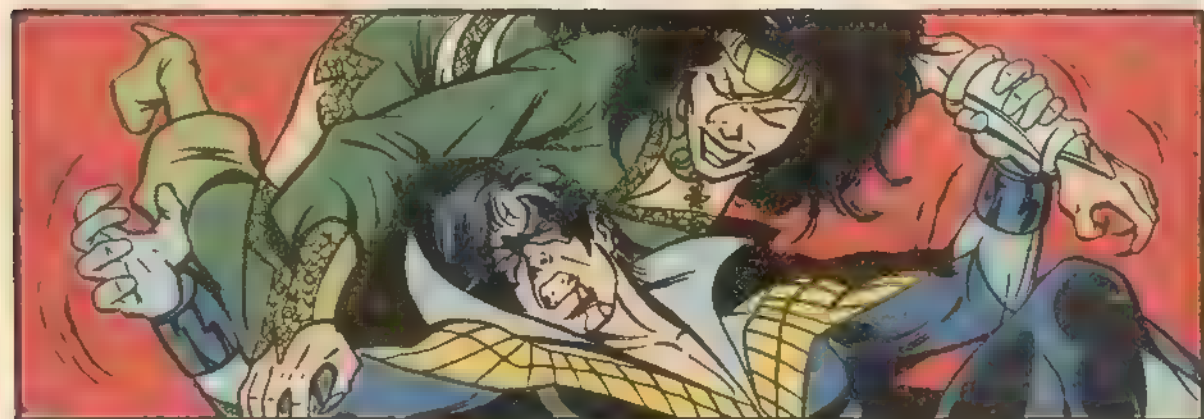
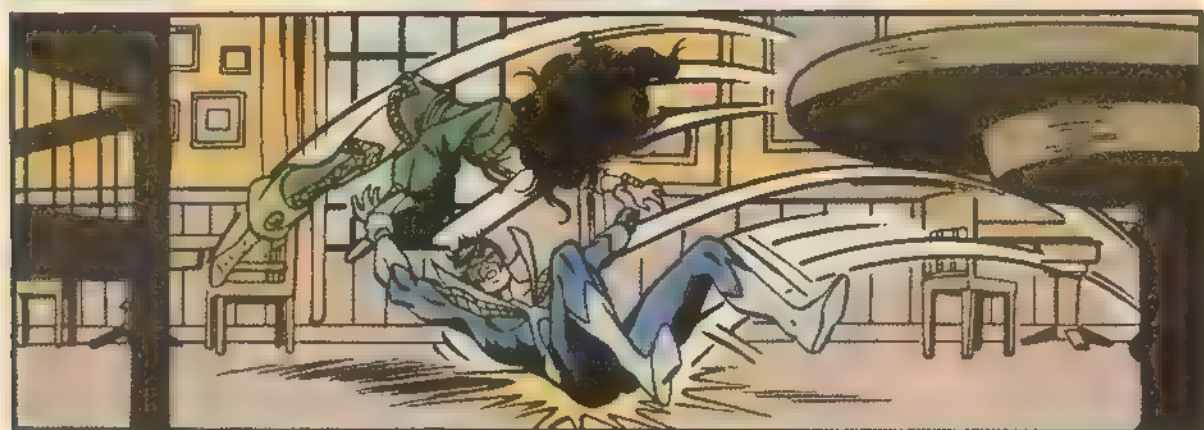
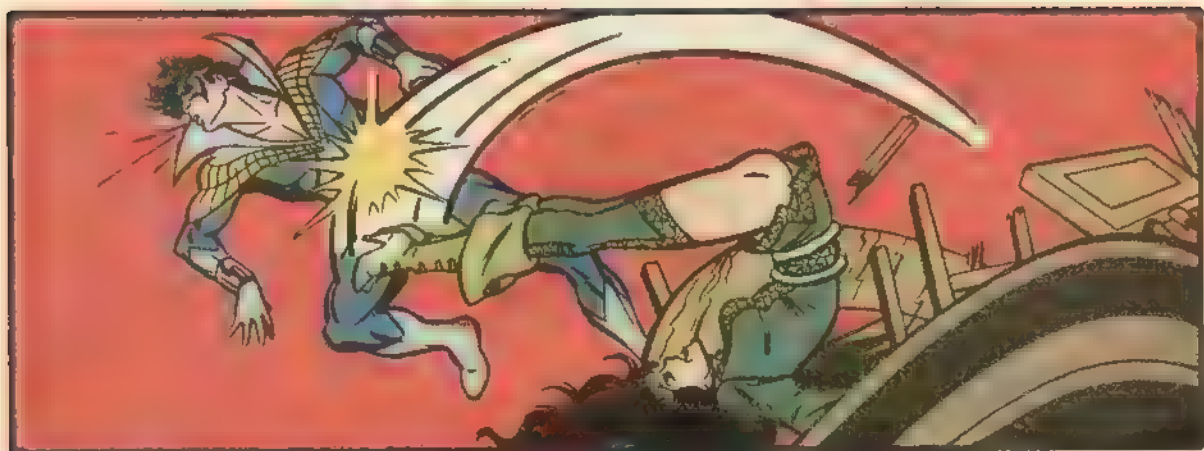
I'LL FIND
HIM AND HE'LL
PAY FOR THE
DAMAGE HE'S
COST.

OH, BEFORE I
LEAVE-- ONE
MORE THING...





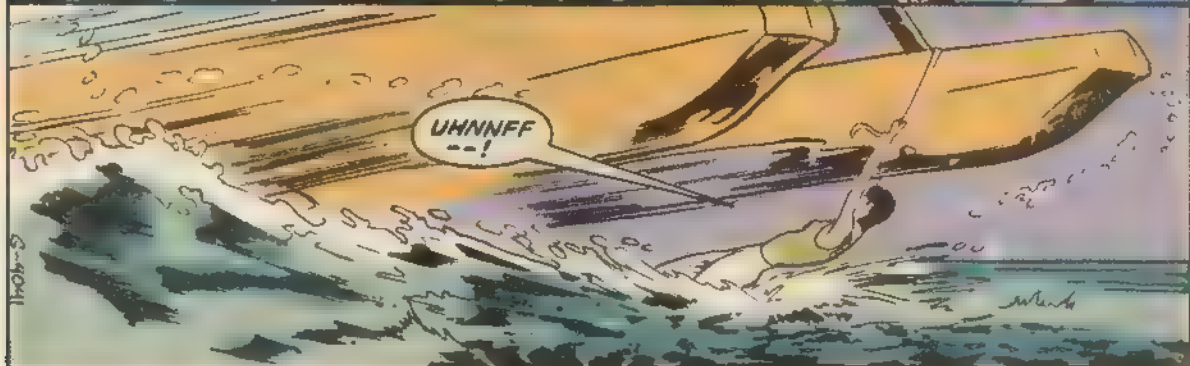
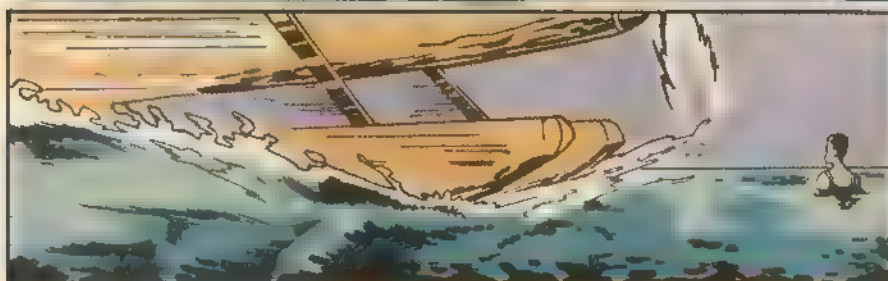


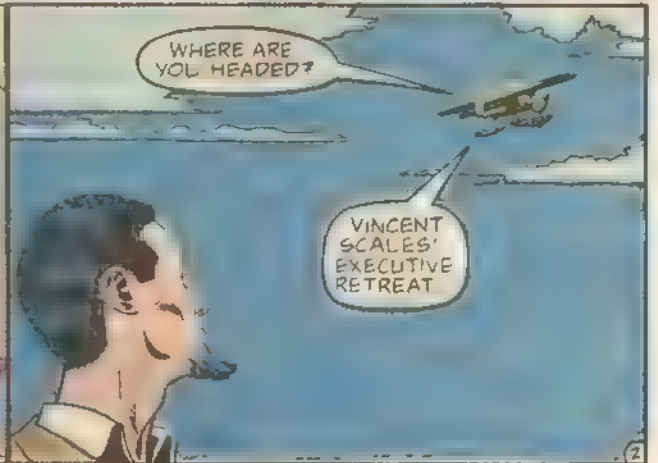
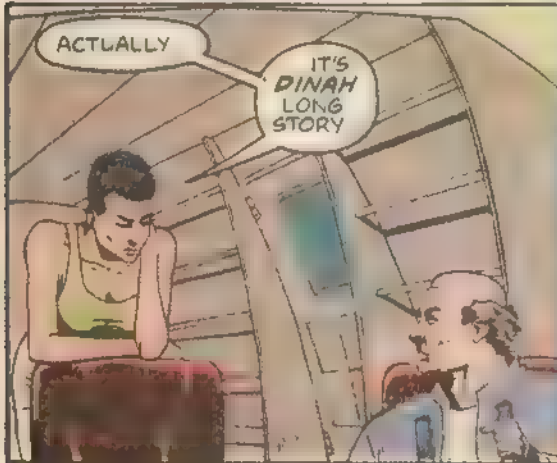
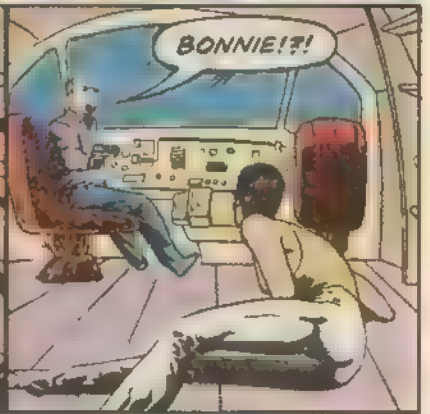
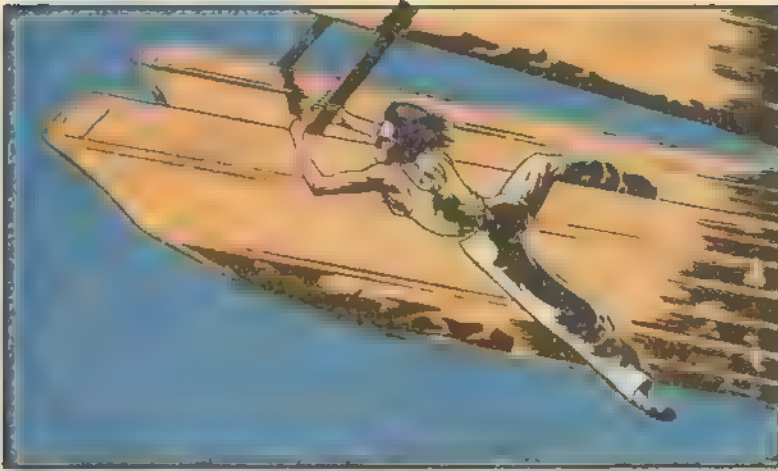


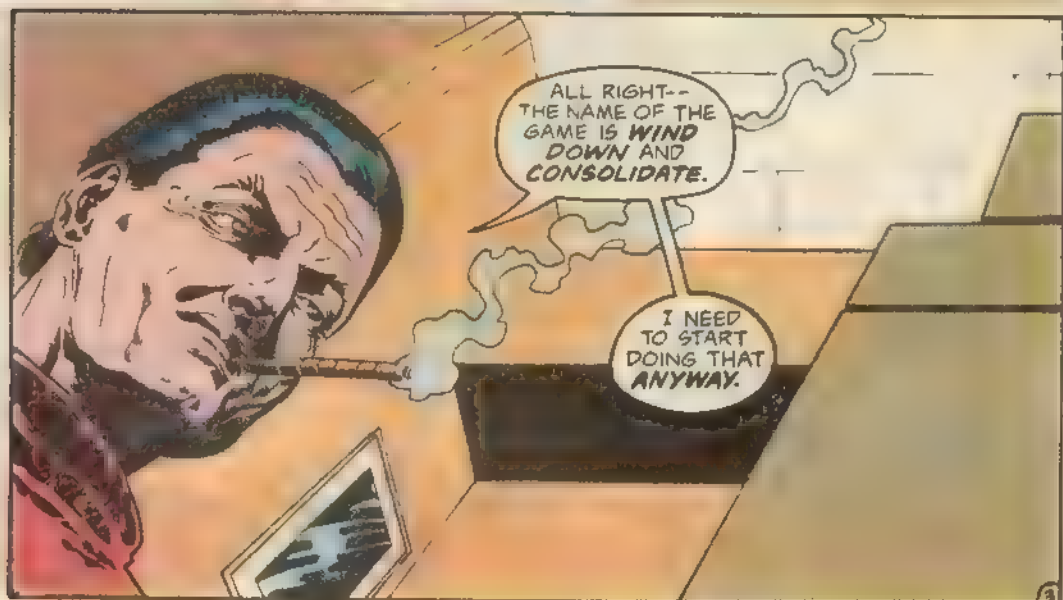
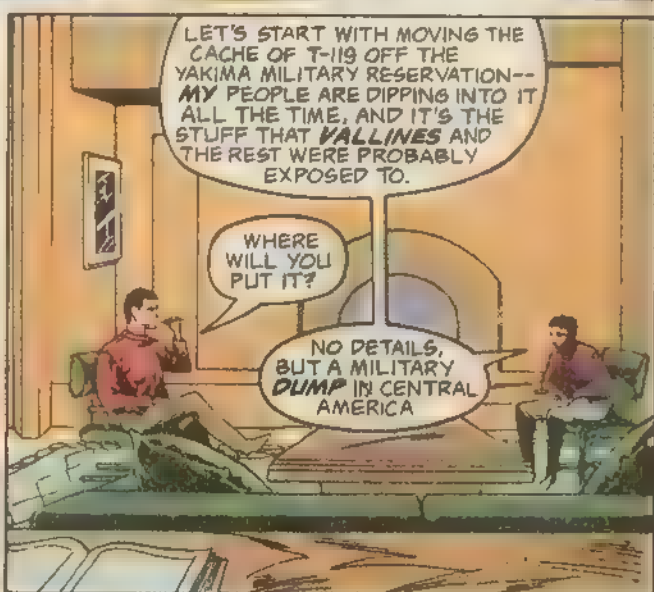
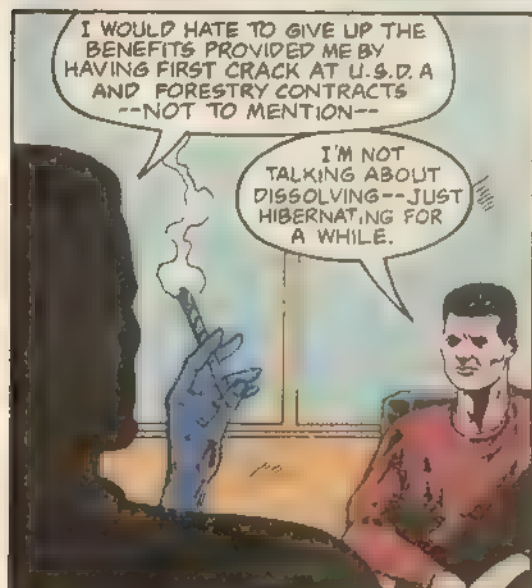
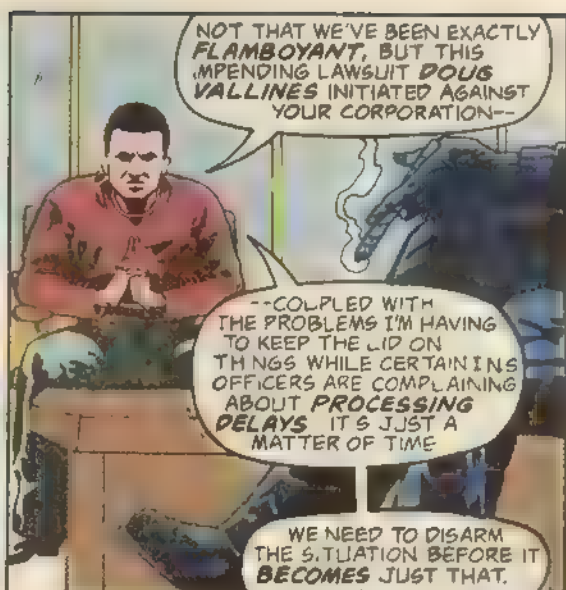
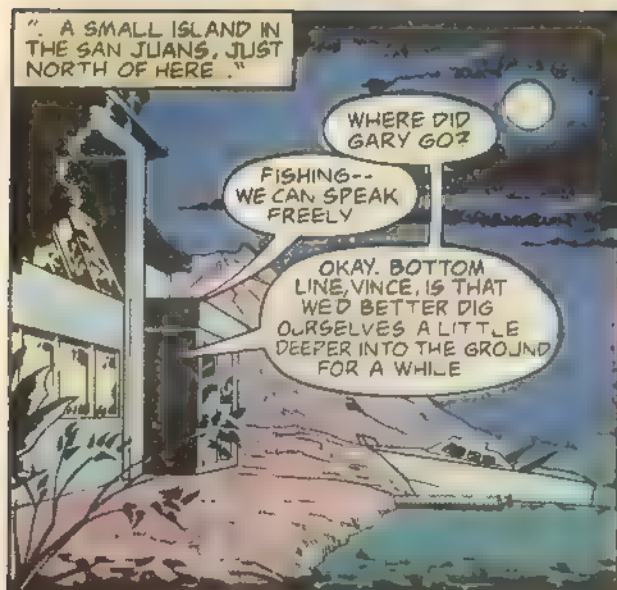
BLACK CANARY™

COLD.

DOESN'T MATTER WHAT
THE TEMPERATURE
REALLY IS, THE
WATER'S ALWAYS COLD
WHEN YOU HIT.







DOLG,
WHAT'RE YOU
GOING TO DO
WHEN WE **GET**
THERE?

GO IN
WITH GUNS
BLAZING?

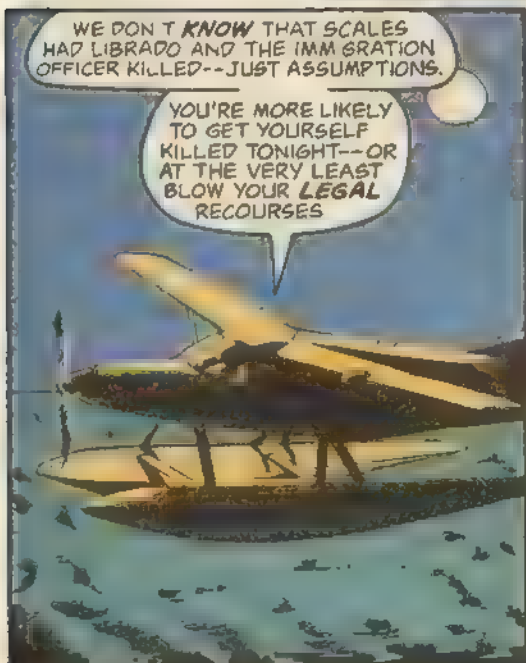
CHRIST,
I DON'T KNOW,
DINAH--BUT TWO
PEOPLE DEAD
ALREADY!

I'VE GOT
TO CONFRONT
SCALES.



WE DON'T **KNOW** THAT SCALES
HAD LIBRADO AND THE IMM GRATION
OFFICER KILLED--JUST ASSUMPTIONS.

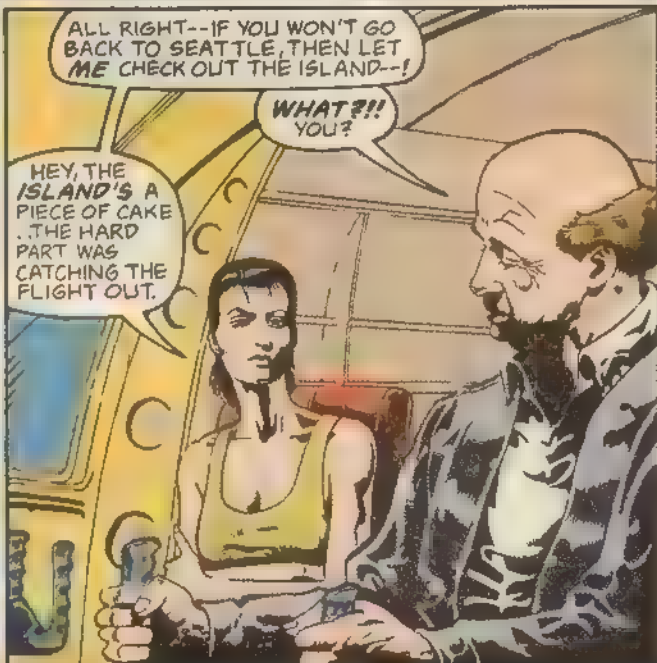
YOU'RE MORE LIKELY
TO GET YOURSELF
KILLED TONIGHT--OR
AT THE VERY LEAST
BLOW YOUR **LEGAL**
RECOURSES



ALL RIGHT--IF YOU WON'T GO
BACK TO SEATTLE, THEN LET
ME CHECK OUT THE ISLAND--!

WHAT?!!
YOU?

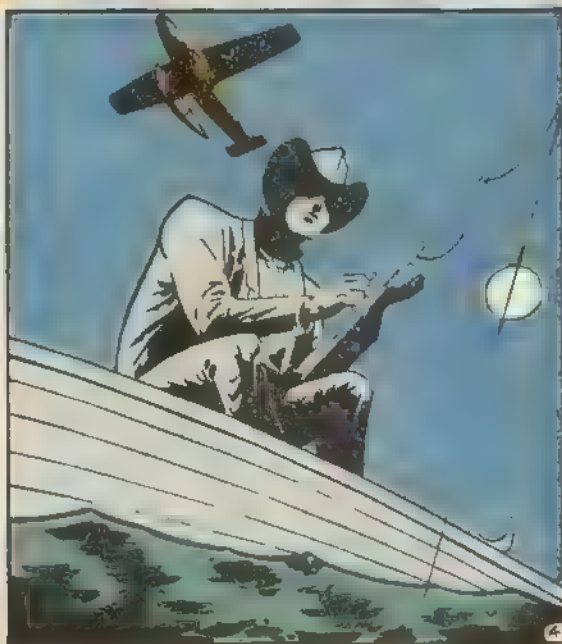
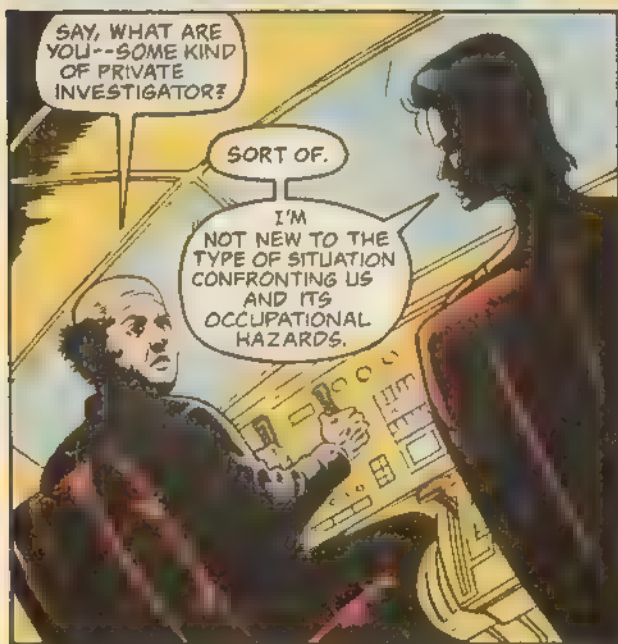
HEY, THE
ISLAND'S A
PIECE OF CAKE
. THE HARD
PART WAS
CATCHING THE
FLIGHT OUT.

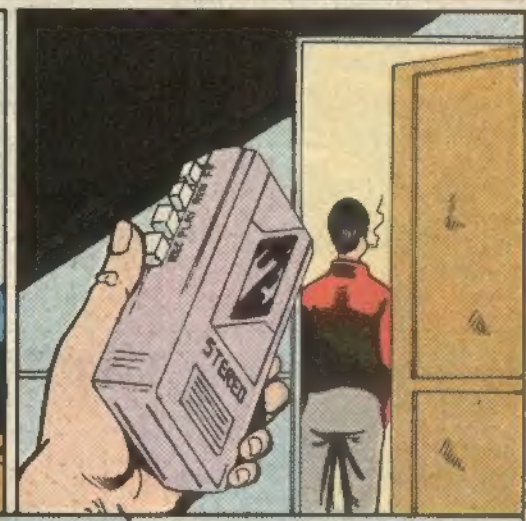
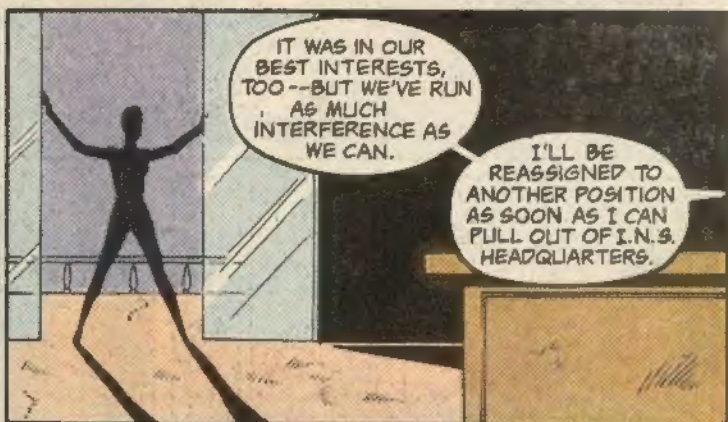
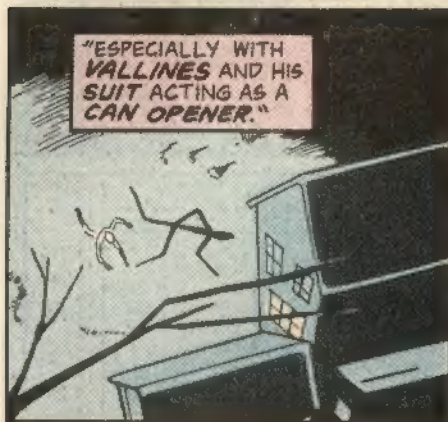
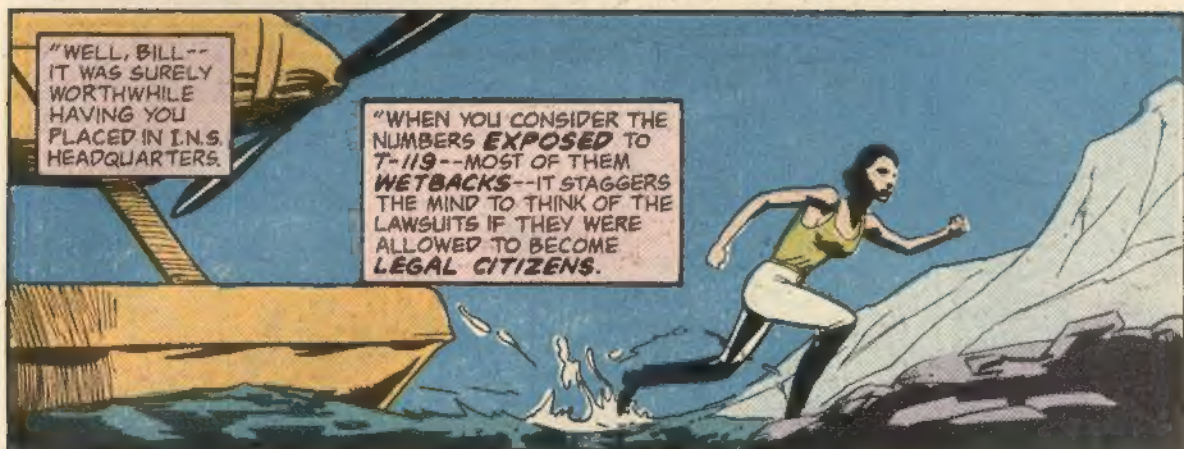


SAY, WHAT ARE
YOU--SOME KIND
OF PRIVATE
INVESTIGATOR?

SORT OF.

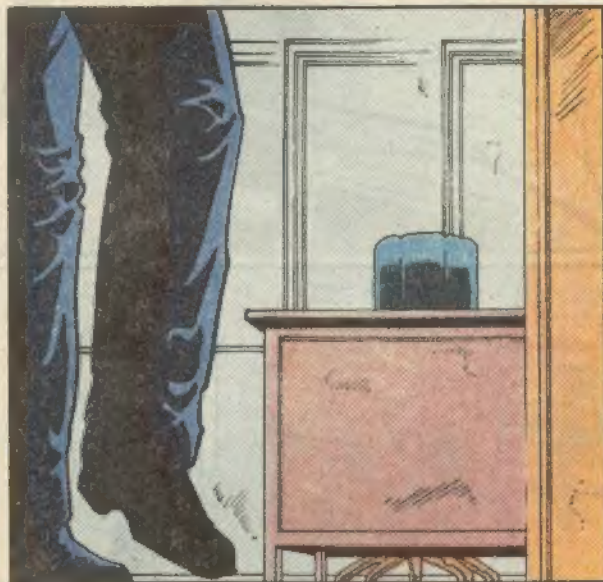
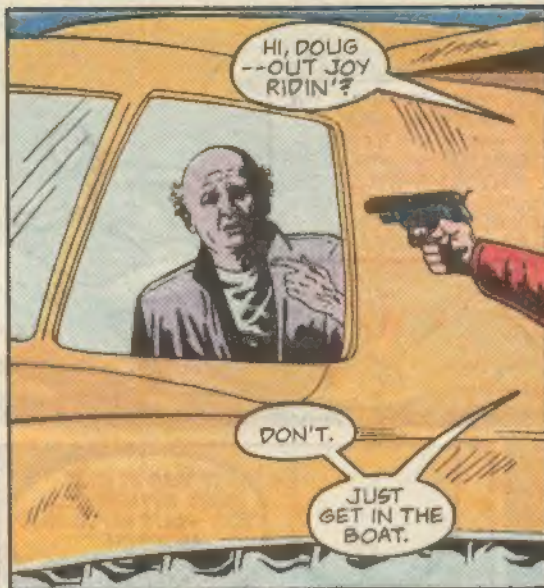
I'M
NOT NEW TO THE
TYPE OF SITUATION
CONFRONTING US
AND ITS
OCCUPATIONAL
HAZARDS.

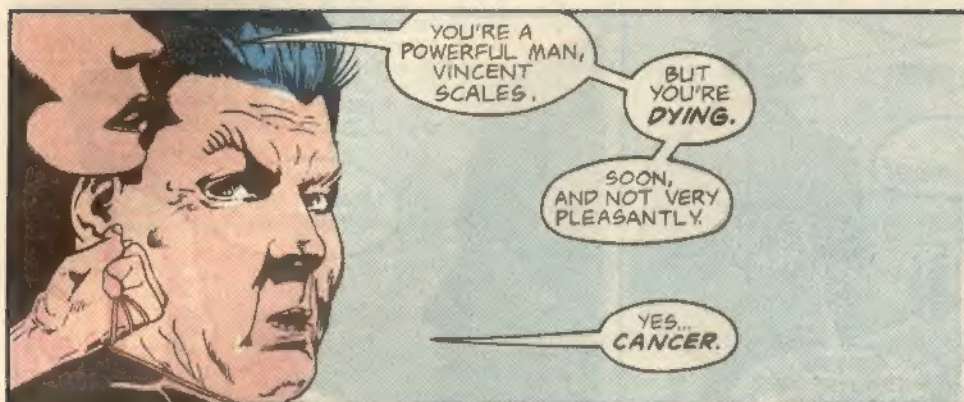




FLIP

FLIP



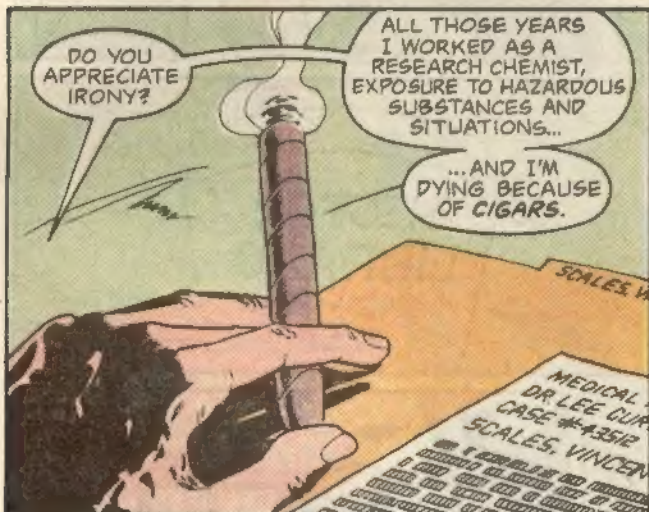


YOU'RE A
POWERFUL MAN,
VINCENT
SCALES.

BUT
YOU'RE
DYING.

SOON,
AND NOT VERY
PLEASANTLY.

YES...
CANCER.



DO YOU
APPRECIATE
IRONY?

ALL THOSE YEARS
I WORKED AS A
RESEARCH CHEMIST,
EXPOSURE TO HAZARDOUS
SUBSTANCES AND
SITUATIONS...

...AND I'M
DYING BECAUSE
OF CIGARS.



YOU SEE,
I--!

ARE YOU UP?
I CAUGHT A
BIG 'UN...

CALL HIM IN--
CASUALLY.

IN HERE,
GARY.



LOOK WHO
I FOUND OUT
ON THE POND.



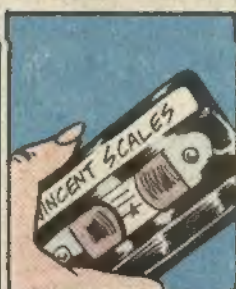
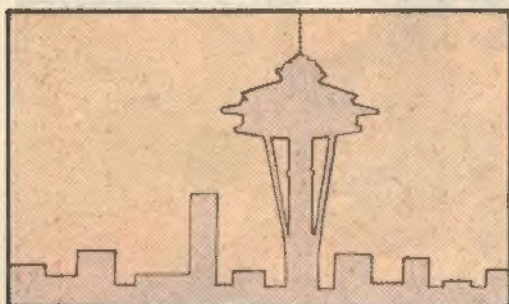
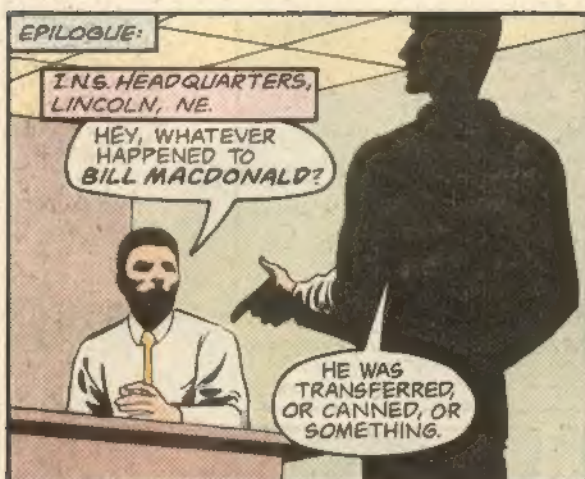
WE'RE LEAVING--
NO TROUBLE.

OF COURSE
NOT-- I'D BE
A FOOL TO
INTERFERE...
AFTER ALL...



...YOU HAVE
NOTHING.

AND I
HAVE ONLY A
FEW MONTHS.



BITTER FRUIT - CONCLUSION

SHARON
WRIGHT
WRITER

RANDY
DUBURKE
PENCILLER

PABLO
MARCOS
INKER

STEVE
HAYNIE
LETTERER

GENE
D'ANGELO
COLORIST

MIKE
GOLD
EDITOR

IN TWO WEEKS: **DEADMAN**™ IS BACK!
BLACK CANARY WILL RETURN IN ACTION COMICS WEEKLY #624